

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

THE RIGHT OF TRANSLATION AND REPRODUCING ILLUSTRATIONS IS RESERVED

No. 318. VOL. 12.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1861.

PRICE 2½D.—STAMPED, 3½D.

THE KINGDOM OF POLAND.

WHAT is to become of Poland? It is easy enough to reconstitute it on paper; the friends of "nationality" have already done so, but without consulting the wishes of Russia, Austria, and Prussia on the subject. No one wishes

to see the Poles oppressed, and politicians of all parties in England and France would gladly see those joined whom Frederick of Prussia, Catherine of Russia, and Maria Theresa of Austria put asunder. Also, every one would like to see the rights of "nationality" respected, so that every nation worthy of the name might give full development to its language, literature, and institutions. Thus Hungary and Bohemia might exist as separate nationalities, and still form part of the Austrian empire; but thus Poland could not exist, unless with the consent, or by the defeat, of the great military Powers who at present hold the Poles in subjection. It is easy enough to say that "nationality" is the great modern principle, that "nationality" must triumph everywhere, and so on; but the fact is it has hitherto triumphed nowhere, except in Italy, and there only with the assistance of the French, who, joined to the Sardinians, could have beaten the Austrians on any other point or pretended principle just as well. Italy, aided by France, had to free herself from Austria, the Italian Grand Dukes, and the King of Naples. This was a very different problem from that now presented by unthinking Liberals to Poland, who, to regain her unity and independence, would have to overcome the combined armies of Austria, Russia, and Prussia. We believe the Poles to be a far greater military nation than the Italians; their whole history proves it, and especially their modern history, from Sobieski to Kosciuszko, and from Kosciuszko to Dembrowski. But say (to state an evident absurdity) that divided, unarmed Poland may be considered equal to the

combined armies of Sardinia and France, even then the force which the Sardinians and French had to overcome in the last Italian War would be as nothing compared to what could be brought against the Poles by their united oppressors. Then we are told that Poland has a claim upon

and gave representative institutions to his kingdom while withholding them from his empire—a measure, by-the-way, which excited the jealousy of the Russians in no small degree. The Emperor Nicholas, after the insurrection of 1830, abolished the Polish Constitution (the parchment on which it was written

may be seen in the present day in the Treasury of the Kremlin, among other relics of the past), and replaced it by certain consultative assemblies and municipal councils, which had neither a popular nor even a national character.

When the present Emperor of Russia ascended the throne he introduced various changes into the Polish Administration, re-established Polish as the official language of the kingdom, and, after the celebrated interview at Erfurt, formed the Agricultural Association of which we have heard so much lately, and which every one seems to think was originated by the Poles themselves. This society of landed proprietors appears to have been intended as a sort of essay towards the establishment of a representative, or at least of a consultative, assembly. It is a mistake to suppose that it was not meant to have any political character. On the contrary, there can be no doubt but that the Emperor Alexander wished for the existence of a body of influential men who could supply reliable information as to the real wants of the country, and especially as to the condition of the peasantry—a subject in which this Sovereign was known long since to take a great and truly benevolent interest. But it, of course, was not desired that the association should assume an anti-



FIGURE OF HONOUR.—GUARDS' MEMORIAL.—(DESIGNED BY JOHN BELL.)—SEE PAGE 288.

the combined armies of Austria, Russia, and Prussia. We believe the Poles to be a far greater military nation than the Italians; their whole history proves it, and especially their modern history, from Sobieski to Kosciuszko, and from Kosciuszko to Dembrowski. But say (to state an evident absurdity) that divided, unarmed Poland may be considered equal to the

Europe to be reconstituted into one kingdom. Nothing can be more untrue. At the signing of the Treaty of Vienna the Grand Duchy of Warsaw (the Polish State formed by the Emperor Napoleon) was called the Kingdom of Poland, and its crown placed upon the head of the Emperor Alexander, who engaged to grant his Polish subjects a Constitution. He kept his word,

Russian attitude; and, after the part its members took in the recent disturbances, it was not unnatural that it should be dissolved; but in dissolving it the Emperor undid his own work, and not that of a body of Polish patriots.

How, then, has Russia broken any promises made on the subject of Poland to Europe? Something, it is true, was said

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 157.

A SPEAKER WITHOUT A WIG.

It was announced in the columns of this paper last week that Mr. Speaker was suffering severely from lumbago, and it was hinted that probably he would be forced to succumb to the attack, and vacate his seat in the chair for a time. This prophecy was fulfilled on Friday night, and on that occasion the strangers in the lobby saw an unusual sight; for at four o'clock the Speaker did not make his appearance, but Lord Charles Russell, the Serjeant-at-Arms, marched into the House, with the mace on his arm, instead of on his shoulder, preceded by no Speaker. On arriving at the table the Clerk of the House, Sir Denis Le Marchant, read a letter to the House announcing the illness of the Speaker, whereupon Mr. Massey, the Chairman of Ways and Means, according to standing order for such case provided, took his station at the table as Deputy-Speaker, and, after prayers, mounted the chair, and presided as the Speaker's locum tenens during the evening. On this occasion Mr. Massey wore neither wig nor gown, but appeared in the evening dress which he usually wears when presiding over Committees of the whole House. Until 1853 no provision had been made for supplying the place of a Speaker by a Deputy Speaker; and when the Speaker was unavoidably absent no business could be done. But the Clerk acquainted the House with the cause of his absence, and put the question for adjournment. When the Speaker, however, was so ill as to be unable to attend for a long time, a new Speaker was elected with all the usual formalities. But on the recovery of the old Speaker the new one would formally resign or "fall sick," and the former was re-elected, with a repetition of the usual ceremonies. In 1853 this inconvenience was got rid of by standing order, subsequently amended, and now we have really a Deputy Speaker ready at all times, on emergency, to take the chair and exercise all the duties thereof. It was a strange sight that of a simple unrobed gentleman in the chair; and without the imposing wig and gown of the Speaker the House seemed to be shorn of half its dignity. This was not the first time, however, this has occurred; for, some years ago, in Lord Eversley's time, Mr. Fitzroy, in the same unadorned costume, took the chair. It is a remarkable fact that though Lord Eversley was Speaker eighteen years on only one occasion was he forced to absent himself by illness. The present Speaker is by no means so hardy a plant. Indeed, it is rumoured that so heavily does he feel the pressure of his duties that he means to retire from the speakership at the end of this Parliament. Mr. Massey seemed nervous and not quite at ease on Friday night; but this is not at all surprising, considering the novelty of his position. He, however, is an able President of Committee; knows well the forms of the House; and, no doubt, with practice, would make a very good Speaker. But he must be robed in the usual costume; for if there be not "wisdom in the wig" there is certainly authority.

WHAT IS THE FIGHT ABOUT?

The people of England, though proud of the House of Commons, are generally profoundly ignorant of its forms, and have no doubt been wondering what particular question the House has been debating during the past week. We will, therefore, devote a line or two to their enlightenment. All bills which involve a charge upon the public revenue must originate in a Committee of the whole House. The object of this rule is to allow the freest and most ample discussion upon the introduction of money bills. The House of Commons from of old has been the special guardian of the public purse. To watch over that, indeed, was its primary function; and to enable it to perform this duty in the most effective manner it became long since an established rule that bills charging the public revenue should be introduced in Committee, when, as everybody knows, any member may speak as many times as he pleases. The usual course is, when a money bill is to be introduced, for a resolution or resolutions to be moved in Committee; and if these resolutions are carried they are reported to the House, and the House orders a bill embodying these resolutions to be brought in. Well, Mr. Gladstone wished to introduce certain resolutions in Committee, and on Monday, the 22nd, he moved, "That the Speaker do now leave the chair," which meant that the House do resolve itself into Committee; and it is that question, "that the Speaker do now leave the chair," that the House has been discussing. It was rumoured that her Majesty's Opposition intended not only to debate this question, but seriously to oppose and divide upon the motion. But such a course was never probable, for a defeat of the Government on this question would have been a rejection of the entire Budget, and of course must at once have led to a resignation of the Ministry or a dissolution of Parliament. It was, however, soon decided that there was to be no division, but that the fight would be against the particular resolution in Committee which recommends the repeal of the paper duty. On Monday night, or rather on Tuesday morning, after three nights' debate, the arduous task of getting Mr. Speaker out of the chair and the House into Committee was accomplished.

THE "BOTTLE-AND-JUG" DEPARTMENT IN DANGER.

But there will be more fights than one; and amongst others we are to have—if it be possible to get one up, which at present is doubtful—a stern battle for the poor "wittlers." Yes; once more these poor fated men are in the field—called to the field again to defend a precious privilege attacked by the dreadful and inexorable Gladstone. Will he never let these poor fellows alone until he has deprived them of all their rights, broken up their entire monopoly, and reduced them to the vulgar level of other traders? Many years ago their monopoly received a heavy blow by the passing of the Beershop Act, which enabled any little pettifogging fellow to open a shop to sell beer. Last year Gladstone passed his Wine-licensing Act, throwing open the privilege of selling wine to confectioners, eating-house keepers, &c., &c. And now he is not only about to extend this privilege still further, but has opened an attack upon the "bottle-and-jug" department of that trade. Our readers are probably aware that, by the law as it now stands, the right to sell wines and spirits in small quantities is the exclusive privilege of the licensed "wittlers;" and that any merchant selling wines and spirits in less quantities than two gallons is liable to heavy penalties. Hence the "wittlers" in large towns have been driving a large and very profitable trade in their "bottle-and-jug department." Indeed, in some parts of London, the "bottle-and-jug department" is by far the most valuable part of the trade. No wonder, then, that Gladstone's announcement that this monopoly is to be abolished carried dire dismay into the hearts of the "wittlers;" and that a shout of execration arose throughout the entire of Witleddom when the proclamation went forth. But "the wittlers" do not mean to die without a struggle; by no means. On the contrary, they mean to nail their colours to the mast and fight till the last shred be shot away. Already is the fiery cross gone forth through the length and breadth of Witleddom. Already is the banner lifted, and every "wittler" in the kingdom summoned to the rescue. That knot of men you see there in the corner of the lobby against the post-office consists of "wittlers" who have answered the summons. There are metropolitan "wittlers," who of course living nearest the scene of battle are first upon the field. The little man with the sharp face is Mr. Smith, the secretary to the "wittlers' association." It was he that sent round the fiery cross, and now he is marshalling his forces here to dodge and worry the metropolitan members to bring them well up to the scratch—to use a favourite phrase of Witleddom, and to present "a force of public opinion" that may possibly compel Mr. Gladstone to raise his siege of the fortress of "bottle and jug." "Who is the dark-looking gentleman in specs who is bowing so low to Mr. Smith?" That is Mr. Harvey Lewis, the new member, and his chapman, who is with such infinite grace introducing his friend, is Lord Fernoy. Mr. Harvey Lewis's election was a hasty affair, and this is probably his first introduction to the august and powerful secretary. But they will not succeed, these "wittlers," for,

alas! in the House of Commons this question assumes an entirely different aspect to that in which it appears in the bar and back parlour. There this proposal of Gladstone is naturally looked upon as a dead robbery, but here it is considered that the present system is a robbery of the public; for it is rumoured strongly that very questionable stuff has gone forth from these bottle-and-jug departments. Brandies more remarkable for colour than quality, having more the taste of burnt sugar than of the genuine spirit; ports with a decided flavour of logwood chips, sherris anything but "dry," and gins with a very fiery quality in them; and that her Majesty's lieges have had their healths very seriously injured by partaking even moderately of these questionable drinks; and somehow, of late, our House of Commons has got into the habit of legislating for the public instead of for monopolists, and have come to think that the people are not made for "wittlers," but "wittlers" for the people.

DEBATE ON THE BUDGET.—FITZGERALD—GIBSON.

Last week we cursorily ran over the first night's debate upon the Budget. This debate was resumed on Thursday, the 25th, by Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald, who, having moved the adjournment on Monday, had the privilege of reopening the ball. Mr. Fitzgerald was Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in Lord Derby's late Administration, and he is looked upon in the House as one of our "rising men." By profession Mr. Fitzgerald is a barrister-at-law, and still goes the Northern Circuit—at least, so says "Dod;" and from his speaking it is easy to see that if he had attended exclusively to his profession he might have risen to a far higher eminence than he can ever attain in the more uncertain political arena. Mr. Fitzgerald is a remarkably good speaker. His language is correct; his style is simple, perspicuous, and sufficiently flowery; his manner is tranquil and effective; he has the art of putting his arguments well; and it is obvious that, as a rule, he does not speak without due and thoughtful preparation. His speech on Thursday was one of the best that he ever delivered; from his point of view was successful; and, if no one had come after him with a reply, would have produced a lasting impression. When Mr. Fitzgerald sat down, up rose Mr. Milner Gibson. Now, in many things, Mr. Gibson is not comparable as a speaker to Mr. Fitzgerald. He is not so easy in his manner; his style is rather jerky and uneven; if he is never really at a loss for words, he occasionally makes his hearers fear that he is; and his voice is pitched at rather too high a key. But on all subjects specially within Mr. Gibson's range there are few more able men in the House than he. And especially was this seen to be so on this occasion, for the speech of the right hon. President of the Board of Trade was, as far as it went, one of the most exhaustive and effective replies that we have ever heard. Mr. Gibson stood up for an hour and more, and to our fancy he seemed like a skilled jeweller examining a bag of reputed precious stones brought to him for sale. "Yes, this looks genuine; but see, now we put it under a strong light, it is only a clever imitation. That? Oh, that is obviously flawed and good for nothing; and this, again, is specious enough, but it is clearly nothing but paste well got up, and would deceive many people, but it won't pass here." And so on till the bag was emptied and its contents condemned.

MR. HORSMAN.

But the great night of the debate was Monday, for then we had Mr. Horsman, Mr. Bright, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Disraeli, and Lord Palmerston. We think that we express the general opinion of all who heard Mr. Horsman when we say that he was not happy on this occasion. He looked careworn, and not well; and his words did not flow out so freely as they are wont to do. Mr. Bright spoke *quo more*. This repeal of the paper tax is one of his favourite subjects. He is entirely master of the question. Men will say that he is specially interested in the repeal of this tax; but why should we seek for interested motives for a public man's conduct when it is consistent with his well-known principles, and is in harmony with the whole tenor of his life? It would be strange, indeed, to see Mr. Bright defending an excise tax upon manufacture and ranked with the opponents of free trade. When Mr. Bright sat down, up rose the House, like a flock of crows from a field, for the dinner hour was come, and in a few minutes Sir James Ferguson stood addressing some seventy or eighty members where just before at least four hundred were gathered. And for the space of five minutes in the outer lobby there was a noise and confusion as of Babel. But soon it was all over—had passed away to the dining-room into clubs, and resolved itself into a clatter of knives and forks and plates, the shuffling of assiduous waiters, the ring of glasses, and the low hum of conversation upon the probabilities and prospects of the Budget; whilst in the House the seventy or eighty members left settled themselves down to listen to what the Sir James and Mr. Liddell and men of like calibre had to give them, or, perhaps, to sleep.

MR. GLADSTONE.

The diners, however, did not sit long over their wine. It was known beforehand that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would rise as soon as possible after dinner, and therefore about nine o'clock the members began to stream back again into their places, and at ten o'clock, when the champion leaped into the ring the House was again crowded, to hear the Chancellor's defence. "Leaped into the ring," we have said, and that is the phrase best suited to describe the manner in which Gladstone, when the time was come, sprang to his feet. It was, however, no light task that he had before him. For two nights and a half critics had been assailing his Budget, until it was easy to see that an impression was gaining ground, even amongst his friends, that in some cases he had possibly been mistaken. But he had not been long upon his legs when his friends began to feel a revival of their confidence. To analyse his speech is impossible. As a reply it was most effective.

After Mr. Gladstone came Disraeli, who made a clever speech, which brought down applause from his friends that seemed at times to shake the building. But it is remarkable that the leader of the Opposition could not hold the House. Many went home when Mr. Gladstone sat down, and many more, some even of Disraeli's principal supporters, wandered away, and whilst their leader was haranguing, quietly chatted and gossiped in the lobbies, as if they felt no sort of interest in what was going on.

If the bill be carried unmodified by the Commons, I do not believe that there is anything to be apprehended from the Lords, for the Chancellor this year, warned by what occurred last, has embodied all his resolutions in one bill; and the Lords, therefore, will find themselves in this position—*They cannot alter a money bill.* This is allowed on all hands; and they will hardly venture to throw the financial affairs of the kingdom into confusion by rejecting the entire bill. The only thing they can do is to demand that resolutions be sent up to them in separate bills; but such a course would be contrary to usage, involve enormous difficulties and endless delay, and I do not believe for a moment that it will be adopted.

LORD DUFFERIN'S RESIGNATION.—The *Opinion Nationale* states as a "revelation" that Lord Dufferin resigned his commissionership in Syria because he was disgusted with the "Machiavellian policy of England;" that for a long while he did not "dare to protest; but that at length, being thoroughly persuaded that it would be all over with the Christians in Syria if the French army were to cease to protect them, he could not stifle the cry of his conscience, which overruled all diplomatic considerations."

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.—The fishing-yawl *Prosperity* returned last week to Milton without her master, and the men relate the following strange story: When on the fishing-grounds, several miles off the coast, one of the crew went forward to trim a lamp carried in the bow of the vessel. He passed the master on his way; he was leaning against the boat on deck. On the return of the man the master was not there, and he shouted to those in the stern to ask him, when his absence led to a search, but with no result. The night and sea were very calm, and no splash was heard in the water to indicate the falling overboard of anything. The boat was launched and the vessel hove to; but no trace of the missing man was found.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Lord LYVEDEN presented a petition from the inhabitants of Calcutta, complaining of the present system of government in India, and Bengal especially. The noble Lord raised an interesting discussion on the whole question of Indian policy, in which Earl De Grey, the Earl of Ellenborough, the Marquis of Clanricarde, the Duke of Argyll, and Earl Grey took part. Their Lordships adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CAPTAIN BRABAZON.—THE BONN OUTRAGE.—SYRIA.—CARDINAL WISEMAN. General PEEL asked what steps the Government had taken to ascertain whether the report of the murder of Captain Brabazon, of the Royal Artillery, by the Chinese was true. His relatives, he said, entertained doubts of the truth of the report, and he thought there was no absolute proof of his death.

Lord R. CRESC called attention to the outrages on Captain Macdonald at Bonn, and asked if it was intended to take any steps for the protection of British subjects travelling in Prussia? He detailed the circumstances of this transaction, observing that the papers before the House showed that a hostile animus against English travellers existed among the authorities in Prussia, who had shown an anxiety to gratify their spleen against England. Captain Macdonald, he thought, ought to receive some reparation from the Prussian Government.

Sir J. FERGUSON inquired whether the recommendations of the International Commission for the affairs of the Lebanon had been finally arranged, whether the Commission was closed, and whether there existed a prospect of a strong Government in Syria?

Mr. NEWDEGATE asked whether the attention of the Government had been directed to a statement in a Belgian newspaper that, in case of the death or abdication of the Pope, Cardinal Wiseman would be appointed representative of the Papacy, and would convene a meeting in this country for the election of a Pope?

Sir H. CAIRNS asked for information as to the suspension of the proceedings under the convention for the settlement of the claims between this country and Brazil.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to General Peel, said he sympathized with the relatives of Captain Brabazon in their anxiety to ascertain the real truth as to his fate, but he was afraid the only consolation left to them was that he had escaped the lingering and barbarous tortures to which his unfortunate comrades had been subjected. At the same time he assured the House that Lord J. Russell had taken every means that could be employed to clear up the mystery. On the case of Captain Macdonald, the facts were stated in the papers laid before the House, and he could only say that he did not think stronger expressions could be used than those in which Lord J. Russell had stigmatised the conduct of the Prussian officials. The opinion he had expressed was that the whole proceedings were most unfriendly towards a Government in alliance with Prussia. He (Lord Palmerston) was astonished that a Government like that of Prussia, looking at the circumstances of the case, should not at once have adopted the course due to their own honour, and said they entirely condemned the conduct of their officials, and that they were ready to offer every reparation Captain Macdonald could require. It was impossible to make any demand upon the Prussian Government, as the limits of the law had not been transgressed; and as to giving warning to travellers, he thought the notoriety of the transaction would operate as a sufficient warning, and that a warning would be given to the Prussian authorities in the indignation with which the transaction had inspired every British subject. In answer to Sir J. Fergusson's inquiry, he said he did not think it would be consistent with the public interest to produce the papers on the subject of the Government to be established in Syria, as a permanent arrangement, which was still under consideration. The Government, he said, had received no information bearing out the reports referred to by Mr. Newdegate; and, in reply to Sir H. Cairns, he stated that the proceedings under the convention had been suspended in consequence of the Government of the Brazils putting forth claims which were considered inadmissible.

FLOGGING IN PRISONS.

Mr. KINNAIRD called attention to the returns on the subject of flogging children and others in prison, and a desultory debate followed, in the course of which

Sir G. LEWIS gave explanations as to the classes of cases in which flogging was inflicted, and the persons who sanctioned the punishment. The subject, he said, was under the consideration of a committee.

MONDAY, APRIL 29.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

In answer to the Earl of Malmesbury, Lord WODEHOUSE, expressing his deep regret at the outbreak of civil war in America, said that her Majesty's Government had come to the conclusion to obtrude no counsel or advice on the Government of America, and had so instructed our Minister.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.

The Post Office Savings Banks Bill was read a third time and passed, after some discussion.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BRIBERY AT BERWICK.

Mr. HODGKIN inquired whether the law officers of the Crown had formed an opinion as to what course was to be taken on the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into bribery at the last election at Berwick; and in which he was stated to have been guilty of bribery.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, having read the report and evidence, it appeared to him that the main evidence against the hon. member depended on the testimony of a witness who had absconded. The only other evidence was a statement of the hon. member himself, which he (the Attorney-General) could not use; and therefore, as he could not expect a conviction, he should not institute a prosecution against the hon. member.

THE BUDGET.

The adjourned debate on the Budget was resumed by Mr. HORSMAN, who declared there was a similarity between the Reform Bill of last year and the Budget of this year, inasmuch as both were objectionable to all but a minority of the House, and not much relished by a majority of the Cabinet, while they were not favourably received by the country. The course now taken by the opponents of the Budget was dictated by a desire not to give a party aspect to an opposition which came from all parties. This discussion was only a clearing of the ground for a battle on a distinct issue in Committee. He regretted that the question of the paper duty and the House of Lords was brought forward again this year. The Finance Minister had, in sailing through a calm ocean of finance, struck on the only rock which was laid down in the chart, and this when every one expected a Budget which would be passed unanimously. He proceeded to question the figures on which Mr. Gladstone founded his surplus, protesting against the aggressive nature of the plan of finance. The principal resolutions reimposed the war income tax with a slight reduction; reimposed the war duties on tea and sugar; and repealed the paper duty—all of which, differing in their nature, were to be included in one bill, with the view of depriving the Lords of their undoubted right to consider the proposed finance of the country. So far from the reduction of a penny of the income tax being a boon, it was a perpetuation of an injustice, inasmuch as only part of the surplus was applied to that impost (which the country would have preferred to have been remitted), the remainder being applied to the remission of a tax which was adopted on political grounds, and to gratify a clique. Referring to the increased expenditure of the country, he contended that it was necessary; for it was incurred in common with every nation in Europe as a security against France; and the warnings and remonstrances of the Chancellor of the Exchequer against that expenditure should have been directed against the aggressive policy of that Power. Notwithstanding the objections entertained to the Budget, he believed there was no desire for, nor any probability of, a change of Ministry; and, even if they were defeated on the resolution on the paper duty, he could see no reason why they should resign, looking to the state of affairs abroad, the position of parties, and everybody doing their best to keep them in their places. But still it was the duty of an Opposition scattered through all parts of the House to oppose the rashness of a Minister who had coerced his chief and his colleagues to convert a question of finance into a political danger. The right hon. gentleman then criticised the details of the Budget, contending that there was in reality no surplus; and he called on the House to arrest the immoral course into which our financial policy was drifting.

Mr. BRIGHT described Mr. Horsman's speeches as for ever full of gloomy prognostications, which were succeeded by occurrences of the very opposite nature. He pointed out that the embodying of a number of resolutions on taxation in one bill was the original practice of the House; and in the Committee which sat on the subject last year it was shown that the privileges of this House had been weakened by the innovation of putting separate resolutions into distinct bills. He urged that if Mr. Horsman's alarming views of foreign affairs were believed by himself he ought to have demanded greater expenditure and objected to any reduction of taxation whatever, and moved an amendment to that effect. He contended that the Budget had been originally received by the Opposition with relief, and even with pleasure; and the subsequent hostility which had been expressed to it, which was inaugurated by Mr. T. Baring, who was

always in the wrong about budgets, was only the necessary activity of an opposition which would otherwise have been out of work. He characterised the obstruction offered to the repeal of the duty on paper as special, and having for its motive a desire to stand in the way in the diffusion of the light of knowledge. He was as great an enemy to the tea and sugar duties as any one; he believed, however, that the remission of the paper duties would give a greater relief to the industrious classes than the reduction of the war duties on tea and sugar. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to argue the question of the repeal of the paper duty. Referring to taunts which had been uttered with regard to the Budget being a conciliatory offering to him—in fact, his Budget—he said that in the sense that it was in consonance with his opinions it was his, as it would be that of the House when it was accepted and passed; and it was because it was in conformity with the great principles which had guided the policy of the last twenty years, and which placed England beyond the reach of those convulsions which now threatened all nations of the world, that he gave it his hearty support.

The debate was continued by Sir J. Ferguson, Mr. Gregson, Mr. B. Cochrane, Mr. P. O'Brien, and Mr. Liddell.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that the Government, having made a computation of expenditure, asked Parliament for £70,000,000 for that purpose, and, calculating that the proposed taxation would produce £72,000,000, they sought to reduce a million and a half of taxes; and this attempt at reduction was vigorously opposed. It was true that it was asserted that there was no surplus; but that was not a unanimous opinion, for Mr. Baring and Sir S. Northcote admitted that, unless very exceptional circumstances occurred, the returns of revenue were fairly and properly calculated. But, assuming a surplus, there was still less unanimity as to its application to reduction of taxation; some being for the income tax, others for tea and sugar, some for malt, and some for spirits; while even some of the Opposition had expressed an opinion that the financial plan was a fair and reasonable one, so diverse were the sentiments of the opponents of the measure. The right hon. gentleman then in detail replied to various criticisms on his financial measures; for instance, accounting for the state of the balances in the Exchequer; an alleged anticipated drop in the French Treaty which had long ago taken place; an alleged excess in the Army Estimates, which had long ago been paid; the falling due of a million of Exchequer Bonds in 1861-2, which it was not necessary to provide for in the present year. Referring to the question of the surplus, he showed how the prophecies of a deficiency this year had been disappointed; with extreme minuteness of detail he replied to statements made by Mr. Moffat, the effect of which was to put him in a deficiency of £27,000, instead of his having a surplus; especially dwelling on the correctness of his expectation of receiving the Chinese indemnity. With regard to the income tax, it was said that its returns would not be so great this year as in the last, owing to deficient trade. But all his information pointed to a considerable increase. With reference to the paper duty, he contended that it was stationary and not a decreasing duty. He justified the reductions which had been made in taxation by means of the surplus, on the ground especially of its carrying out the principles of finance which had been accepted by the country. Taking up the paper duty, he urged that in the course he had taken in comprising the repeal of that duty with other items of the Budget in one bill it had suggested itself as a fair and legitimate mode of meeting the difficulty which had occurred with the Lords, while the remission of the duty was accompanied by a reduction of the income tax. He asked, if his plan of finance was opposed to the real opinion of the House, that it should be declared by the test of a division, instead of being dallied with by long-drawn-out and aimless debates.

Mr. DISRAELI expressed his surprise at the impatience of the Government at the discussion of the measure which they had brought forward. It was highly necessary at all times to consider complicated statements of finance before going into committee on resolutions, but in the present instance this was especially necessary, as last year the House was not treated, in regard to the plans of the Government, with the candour which had a right to expect. The consequence of the haste and precipitation with which the Budget was passed last year was a deficiency, which had been supplied by diminishing the resources and increasing the burdens of the country, trenching on the balances in the Exchequer, and adding to the debt. As regarded the existence of a surplus, he thought that Mr. Gladstone had some foundation for his indignation at its being doubted that he had a surplus, for his estimates must have been carefully considered and calculated. Discrediting the estimates was want of confidence in the Ministry, and therefore he took the surplus as stated, and addressed himself to the mode in which it was to be distributed. The surplus was founded on an erroneous basis, inasmuch as it was assumed that expiring taxes would be renewed, not merely for the purposes of meeting legitimate expenditure, but to enable the Chancellor of the Exchequer to try a financial experiment. That experiment was the repeal of the paper duty. The paper duty had become a question of pure finance. In fact, the House was far more pledged to the repeal of the war duties on tea and sugar, and even of the income tax. There had been talk last year of a gigantic innovation, but there was no innovation so gigantic as a Chancellor of the Exchequer denouncing the expenditure for which he provided the ways and means, and some explanation of this mysterious conduct was due to the House. Referring to the effect of a hostile vote of the House in Committee of Ways and Means, he argued that, when a Ministry was possessed of the confidence of the House in its foreign policy and its general policy, the House ought not to be denied the privilege of deciding on a question of remission of taxation. The Opposition had never attempted to embarrass the Ministry, but, on the contrary, had given it support, and especially to Lord Palmerston, with whom on the question of the paper duty they had little or no difference; and the Premier should not grudge the House the privilege of considering how the interests of the country would be affected by the financial plan. He proposed, therefore, in Committee of Ways and Means, to offer no opposition to the resolution on the income tax; but he should ask the House whether any remission of indirect taxation should not take place on the duties on tea, and take the sense of the House thereon.

Lord PALMERSTON said that the question of the existence of a surplus had been settled, and the only point was the disposal of that surplus. The same proposed to be now submitted to the House was a perfectly fair one, although he preferred the repeal of the duty on paper to the reduction of that on tea. It was not to be denied that that duty was in a situation as regarded both this and the other House which rendered its settlement necessary. He therefore adhered to the arrangement of the Government, and would maintain the proposals which had been made.

The House then went into Committee of Ways and Means, when Mr. T. BARKING intimated an intention of moving to postpone the resolution on the income tax until after the decision on the paper duty, but eventually that resolution was agreed to. The House resumed, and, the other business having been disposed of, adjourned.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords sat a very short time, and adjourned at a quarter past five o'clock.

When the Lord Chancellor took his seat eleven Peers were present. The highest number in attendance at one time was thirty-three.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Commons did not make a House. At four o'clock there were only twenty members present, and the House accordingly stood adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

RECOVERY OF DEBTS.

On the motion for going into Committee on the Recovery of Debts Bill, Mr. M. MAHON moved that the Committee be adjourned for six months, and he was supported by Mr. Mellor, Mr. Montague Smith, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Collier, and Mr. Henley.

The bill was defended by Mr. HODGKINSON, who introduced it; but on a division the bill was lost by a majority of 121 to 23.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

Mr. L. KING moved the second reading of the Religious Worship Bill, the object of which was to enable clergymen of the Church of England to perform religious services in places other than churches, and without the now possessed by every other religious denomination.

Mr. SOTHORON-ESTCOTE moved the rejection of the bill. Its object, he said, was to enable the Archbishops and Bishops to license a clergyman to officiate at will in any parish in the country. It, in fact, proposed to relieve a system of competition and rivalry among clergymen in any or every parish, with the obvious consequence of religious dissensions and discord.

Sir G. C. LEWIS stated that he would vote for the bill provided that safeguards to the rights of the Bishops were introduced in Committee.

Lord J. MANNERS opposed the measure as militating against the parochial system.

Mr. Bass, Mr. Spooner, and Mr. Buxton supported, and Mr. G. Hardy and Mr. Newdegate opposed, the bill.

Mr. AVONRO said the object of the bill was to emancipate the laity of the Church of England from the unlimited and irresponsible spiritual control of the clergy.

After a few words from Sir W. HEATHCOTE in opposition to, and Mr. HURFALL in support of, the bill,

A division was taken, when the bill was lost by 191 to 145. The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, MAY 2.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Marriage Law Amendment Bill, and the Leases, &c., by Incumbents Restriction Bill, were respectively passed through Committee. The Queen's Prison Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE RECEPTION MOVEMENT IN AMERICA.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in reply to Mr. Joseph Ewart, said that orders had been issued for the increase of the British naval force to protect British shipping and British interests on the southern coasts of North America and of Mexico. It would, however, be their duty to avoid in any way interfering in the unhappy contest now going on in America.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to an hon. member, said there was no truth, as far as the Government were informed, in the telegram which appeared in the public papers from Vienna stating that a serious conflict had taken place at Corfu between her Majesty's troops and the people. On the contrary, according to the latest accounts, everything remained quiet.

WAYS AND MEANS.—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

Mr. HUBBARD, on the motion for going into Committee of Ways and Means, moved, as an amendment, that it was not expedient to remit taxation to such an extent that the annual produce of the remitted taxes would exceed the estimated surplus revenue in the Budget for the current financial year.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER defended the policy he pursued, and cited the precedents of former Ministers in support of it. Their course had been successful, as he trusted his own would be, and therefore he hoped the House would negative the motion.

After a few words from Mr. Newdegate, at Mr. Disraeli's request the amendment was withdrawn.

The House then went into Committee of Ways and Means.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER then moved the resolution of the Government retaining the duties as at present imposed on tea and sugar up to July, and proposing their reimposition for the succeeding financial year. In recommending this proposition, he observed that after several nights had been expended in disputing the existence of any surplus Mr. Disraeli had brought the debate to a close by setting aside all the allegations of his supporters on that subject and accepting the figures of the Government.

That right hon. gentleman was, however, now prepared to support the amendment given notice of by the hon. member for Liverpool in favour of the reduction of the duties on tea and sugar instead of the proposed abolition of the excise duty on paper. Having complimented the Opposition upon their new-born philanthropy in behalf of the toiling millions, as evidenced by their desire to obtain for them the blessings of cheap tea, he reminded them that they were not always so favourably disposed to those classes, inasmuch as when Lord Aberdeen's Government proposed the remission of the tea duty the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Disraeli) called upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to show cause why favour should be shown to an article of foreign production, while the duty on malt was continued at so high a rate. The hon. member for Liverpool intended to invite the House to remit a duty which would leave the Government a surplus of only £123,000, although he and his friends had during three nights' debate reiterated the assertion that there was no surplus at all. He denied that the poor man would at once receive the benefit of the proposed reduction of tea, as experience invariably showed that but a tithe of the benefit sought to be enforced upon the consumer was really enjoyed by him until a considerable period afterwards. In his opinion, the House had solemnly pledged itself to repeal the paper duty, and he called on it now to redeem its honour.

Mr. HORSFALL, in moving as an amendment that the duty on tea should after the 1st of October next be one shilling per pound, said that in making that proposition he was but asking the House, to carry out the resolution which it had arrived at some years ago—namely, that at and after the 31st of April, 1856, the duty on tea should be 1s. per lb.

The MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON was in favour of the Government proposal, and hoped, if it were defeated, that the noble Viscount at the head of the Government would appeal to the country.

Mr. HANNESY said, although he was vice-president of a society for the repeal of the paper duty, he was not prepared in the then state of the finances to vote for this measure.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE defended the course taken by the Opposition upon the question, reiterating many of the arguments he had urged in the course of the adjourned debate that terminated last Monday.

Sir G. LEWIS considered the best mode of applying the now admitted surplus to be that proposed by the Government, whose resolution was grounded upon sound policy and a long-sighted view of the interests of the country.

Mr. DISRAELI referred to the former efforts of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to obtain a remission of the war duties on tea, which he then considered of the utmost importance to the political institutions of the country, observing that if he wished to agitate he would not desire to go to the country on a better ground. A change, however, had come over the right hon. gentleman's views, and he had actually come down to the House in a paroxysm of emotion at an amendment which embodied all his views of former days.

Lord PALMERSTON charged Mr. Disraeli with having recourse to invectives against the Chancellor of the Exchequer when he found that argument had altogether failed him. He contended that no such pressing case had been urged for a reduction of the duty on tea that the House should select that article in preference to another article which had peculiar claims for priority when they were discussing how the surplus was to be disposed of. The other article was paper, in respect of which abundant evidence had been given to show the injurious effects of the duty upon it in crippling that important branch of manufacture to the serious injury of the various interests connected with it. It was impossible to over-estimate the value of an article which was capable of a development at present almost inconceivable. The honour of that House had been solemnly pledged on more than one occasion to the repeal of that duty. The conduct of the House of Lords last Session in respect to it rendered it still more incumbent upon the House of Commons to redeem their pledge and to vindicate their honour. On every ground, then—commercial, financial, and political—he called upon the House to support the proposition of her Majesty's Government.

The House then divided—

For the Chancellor of the Exchequer's resolution... 299

Against it... 281

Majority in favour of the Government... 18

The announcement was received with great cheering on both sides.

THE CENSUS.—The returns from the agricultural parishes continue to show a stationary state of things. In the great towns in the north of England an immense increase will, no doubt, be observed. Thus at Hull the population is now set down at 107,000, as compared with 85,000 in 1851, while at Sheffield it is stated to be 185,000, as against 135,000 in 1851.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.—The committee appointed in June last to inquire into the condition of Westminster School, and suggest measures for its improvement or removal, furnished their report on the subject on Saturday, when a meeting was held to consider their proposals. One point, at all events, seems to be settled, that the site of the school is not to be changed, because, even were it desirable, the funds available are inadequate to the purpose. Of various recommendations made by the committee, the greater number have received the sanction of the Dean and Chapter.

THE LONDON CABMEN.—The second annual meeting of the Cabmen's Club (in Bell-street, Edgware-road) was held yesterday week, and was attended by between 200 and 300 cabmen and their wives. The Earl of Shaftesbury, the President, occupied the chair. The report for the past year stated that the objects the cabmen were seeking to obtain by their voluntary association were the use of a library, the holding of Bible classes and religious services on Sunday evenings, a friendly society, a penny bank, a registry for unemployed cabmen, and refreshments from eight a.m. to ten p.m. The library consists of 500 volumes, and 342 of these have been lent during the year, besides the daily use of them in the reading-room. There were upwards of 8000 licensed cabmen in London. About 2000 of that number reside in the parishes of Marylebone and Paddington. The committee were encouraged to persevere by the great improvement observable in many cabmen since the formation of the Cabmen's Club. It was a cause of regret that cabmen spent from fourteen to eighteen hours in the streets to obtain sufficient money to pay for the hire of their horses and cabs and support their families. Under the present system it appeared impossible for them to diminish their hours of labour. It could, however, be done by assisting them to become owners of the horses and cabs they drive. It was proposed to accomplish this by the formation of a company of gentlemen to superintend the contemplated scheme. Every cabman should be an eligible candidate for proprietor, subject to the approval of the managers, and entitled to drive a horse and cab by the payment of a daily subscription. When any cabman had subscribed an amount equivalent to the cost of the property, feeding the horse, repairs of cabs, &c., the property should be his own. This scheme would not only give him more time for self-improvement any day throughout the week, but would also secure him the Sabbath (for six-day plates only would be used by the company).

GARIBALDI'S RECONCILIATION.

A letter from Turin of the 25th ult. in the *Constitutionnel* says:—

I think that your readers will be curious enough to know the details of the reconciliation which has just taken place. The King yesterday afternoon sent a message to Garibaldi to say that he wished to see him before he left Turin. In the interval his Majesty then made Count Cavour give him a full account of the state of the public mind, particularly in the new provinces of the kingdom, and then informed him of his project. Count Cavour thanked the King, begging his Majesty to carry it into execution as soon as possible, and not to spare him (Count Cavour) any sacrifice which might perhaps be necessary on his part. Count Cavour, on his return to the Chamber, invited all the members of the majority to hold a private meeting at eight o'clock that evening, at which the Ministry would be present, for the purpose of communications and deliberations of confidential character. The King, after his interview with Count Cavour, sent another message to the General appointing an interview for seven o'clock for important communications. General Garibaldi, over whom the wishes and the words of the King exercise a complete magnetic influence, joyfully attended the summons of his Sovereign at the hour appointed. You may readily conceive what language Victor Emmanuel held to the ex-Dictator and the replies of the latter. Count Cavour, who was introduced a few minutes after, requested Garibaldi to state on what conditions he would become in accord with the Ministry. The General returned to his project of national armament, and to another condition which a not distant future will inform you of. The application of the principle of the armament was then the subject of conversation between the three speakers; an accord was soon established, and Garibaldi then held out his hand to Count Cavour, who shook it warmly. All three were labouring under strong emotion; Victor Emmanuel, on being thanked by the two great patriots, avowed to them that the present moment was for him one of the happiest of his life, and that he should long before have made himself the initiator of this reconciliation but for his scrupulous respect for constitutional usages. As soon, however, as he had seen the schism on the point of becoming a serious danger for the country, his patriotism prevailed over constitutional considerations, feeling assured of meeting with the approbation and the applause of the whole nation.

Garibaldi, on returning home at eight o'clock, found a note from the Marquis Pallavicino Trivulzio, who, being confined to his house by indisposition, begged the General to come to him for an important communication. Garibaldi, without even alighting from his carriage, ordered his coachman to drive to the residence of the Marquis. There he found General Cialdini, who, on his entrance, went towards him, and, before the ex-Dictator could recover from his surprise, threw his arms round his neck. After a reconciliation so striking and so useful to the country as that which had just taken place at the palace, and of which he had been informed, he hoped (he said) that he would consent to return to his old feelings towards his companion in arms, who, with a military frankness, had the other day manifested ill-humour towards him, but which must necessarily cease with the motives that had produced it. Garibaldi in his turn threw his arms round the neck of Cialdini, saying, "Let us never speak of it again." Count Cavour, on leaving the Royal Palace, went immediately to the Philharmonic Academy, where the members of the majority of the Parliament had assembled to await his communications. On entering, he announced amidst general surprise what had taken place at the palace, and in a few minutes after what had occurred at the house of the Marquis Pallavicino. A general feeling of joy was expressed. The project of the national armament proposed by Garibaldi was afterwards discussed, and in the public sitting of the Chamber the next morning declared a measure of urgency. Count Cavour announced that the Ministry adopted it in principle, and that it was ready to come to an understanding with the majority on the means of applying it. The majority, after a long examination, decided that the project should be maintained, only that, instead of a levy en masse, the principle which regulated the law on the National Guard should be observed; or, in other words, that only those who pay taxes should be admitted into that force; that the divisions of volunteers should not be separated from the army, but form an integral part of it, by being united to the different divisions of it.

Garibaldi has arrived at Genoa, in order to be present at the marriage of his daughter with Signor Canzio, one of his officers. After the ceremony Garibaldi will, it is stated, return at once to Caprera.

CARDINAL WISEMAN ON THE PAPAL QUESTION.

On Sunday last a pastoral letter from his Eminence Cardinal Wiseman was read in all the Roman Catholic churches and chapels of the archdiocese of Westminster, recommending that, during the present month of May, the devotion designated the "Forty Hours" Prayer (which means the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for the adoration of the "faithful" for that period of time) should take place, according to a published list, in all the churches and chapels of the archdiocese, with the view of imploring God to bring his Holiness the Pope out of his present "harassing and humiliating condition." In explaining the reasons for the exercise of this special devotion his Eminence says:—"Although there appears to be no ground for apprehension in consequence of the late attack of illness experienced by his Holiness, all must be aware how wearying and trying must necessarily be that state of uncertainty regarding his future position which the complicated state of politics must produce. The more gross injustices may have been accomplished, the more bitter sufferings may have been inflicted, the more personal insults may have been exhausted, the pangs of his crucifixion may have been finally felt; the act of spoliation, of the rending in pieces of all that gave him outward and worldly dignity, may have been completed. He is now left hanging in what is intended to be a benighted suspense, while the dice are cast by political gamblers for his seamless robe of state, that capital of the Christian world—that seat of his eternal pontificate—to see 'whose it shall be,' a secular possession of one or many declared foes, no longer the object of the world's veneration, admiration, and love. It is that God will bring our Holy Father quickly out of this harassing and humiliating condition that the faithful are wished now more particularly to pray." His Eminence grants an indulgence of one hundred days to every one of the faithful three times attending the devotion of the month of May, and adding the prayer referred to during the devotion; and, further, using the faculties graciously conceded to him by his Holiness the Pope, he grants a plenary indulgence to any one who shall, in the course of the month of May, have attended its devotions at least ten times, and visited the exposition three times, and after confession and communion shall pray to the same effect. The Cardinal also recommends the faithful to pray for the success of the battle that is to be fought in Parliament "to rescue Catholic children from the dangers to which they are exposed in workhouses, prisons, and schools."

DREADFUL EARTHQUAKE.

A MOST awful earthquake has occurred in the Argentine Republic. A great part of the city of Mendoza has been destroyed, and more than 2000 houses have been thrown down. The loss is estimated at 35,000,000 francs. The destruction of life, however, is the most calamitous circumstance, the number of victims amounting, it is said, to 7000.

CALAMITOUS FIRE.—On Sunday morning Chelsea was visited with a serious calamity in the shape of a fire, which originated in the building-yard of Messrs. Todd, Milner-street. A large stock of valuable timber filled the yard, and this was totally destroyed. But unfortunately the ravages of the flames were not confined to the place where they first broke out. The adjoining property, chiefly dwelling-houses, has suffered extensively, not fewer than fifteen being partially destroyed. Happening as this catastrophe did at an early hour, terror was added to the devastation, the endangered inhabitants being driven in crowds from their beds into the street for safety.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.—A return has just been issued, on the motion of Mr. L. Ricardo, stating the amount of the Funded Debt. On the 31st of March last it consisted of £2,381,038 Two-and-a-Half per Cents; £415,500 Two-and-Three-Quarter per Cents; £779,258,542 Three per Cents; £2,630,769 Three-and-a-Half per Cents; £240,746 Three-and-a-Half per Cents; and £423,603 Quarter per Cents—a total of £785,961,598, on which the annual interest payable amounts to £23,579,340. In the course of the financial year the debt has been reduced £330,153, chiefly by stock being transferred for the purchase of annuities (but there was £47,855 stock transferred for redemption of land tax). The terminable annuities in existence (for lives or terms of years) are stated to amount to £1,346,944, but there are also the naval and military pension annuity of £385,716 purchased by the Bank of England in 1823 and expiring in 1867, the annuity of £116,000 created by the £10,000,000 loan of 1855 (Crimean War) expiring in 1885, and the Tontine annuities created in the reign of George III., &c., &c.,

OMER PACHA.

AGAIN the name of Omer Pacha has come before us in intimate connection with the new dispositions of the Turkish Army, and, although there have been numerous reports of attempts to supersede and degrade the former Generalissimo of the Sultan's forces, he still commands sufficient influence in Turkish affairs to render his name one of the highest in all matters connected with European co-operation. Indeed, Omer Pacha is not really of Turkish origin, since he was born at Plaski, in the district of Ogulin, and is therefore a Croat. His father served the Austrian Emperor as "Administrative Lieutenant," an office of some consideration. His family name was Lattas. The present Pacha, who has never been known by this name since he left the Austrian service, is now sixty years old, and his life, which began with a struggle for a maintenance as tutor to the children of a Turkish merchant, has been frequently subject to vicissitudes, generally, however, surmounted with ability and courage.

The fact of his ability and extraordinary powers of memory and observation may be illustrated by the affirmation of a German author, who declared that when he took command of the army in Europe in 1854 there was not a wood, brook, marsh, or position of any kind available for military purposes of which he had not a complete knowledge. This experience had been gained during two years in which he employed himself in the Danubian Principalities and Bulgaria. Personally, Omer Pacha possesses considerable dignity, and is distinguished for his politeness as well as for the fluency with which he speaks European languages; and, indeed, although he is a follower of Islamism and a renegade, his personal and domestic habits are still European, while he has always exerted himself for the protection of the Christian subjects of the Sultan.

His skill in languages and acquaintance with the habits of these people have eminently qualified him for conducting military affairs amongst them. It was this which obtained him the command of the force sent against the Montenegrins in 1852, while his military skill enabled him to repulse the Russians on the Danube in November, 1853, and again at Eupatoria in 1855.

But the fortune which is under the influence of Princes, who again are under the influence of parasites and factions, is even more fickle than ordinary, and Omer Pacha has for some time past retired into a semi-obscurity from which he was scarcely likely to emerge until the exigencies of the State made it necessary to seek his counsel and experience. There is now, however, an opportunity for his reinstatement, and, with the expectation that active operations were to be commenced by the Porte against the mountain, with the approval of the other Powers, comes the news that Omer Pacha is once more in favour, and that he has been received by the Sultan. This obviously meant that there was work to be done requiring no ordinary skill and promptitude, and it was for some time a matter of inquiry whether the General would undertake a campaign among the defiles of the Black Mountain, where, after all, very little glory would have been the result of a great deal of hard fighting.

It will probably not be long before we hear more of the veteran General however, since he has just been nominated to the command of the army in Roumelia.

READING THE UKASE FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE SERFS IN A RUSSIAN CHURCH.

THAT great event which has been accomplished in Russia, the liberation of thirty millions of men, has been accomplished, and bids fair to usher in a new era for the almost countless people of that great empire. Simultaneously with the freedom bestowed upon the serf comes the construction of new lines of railway and the opening up of communications with other countries, which will eventually tend to give the Russian people such new impulses as must be productive of the happiest results. A nation which contains so many admirable qualifications as Russia may well hope to emerge from the semi-barbarism in which its inhabitants have been retained for so long a time, and to take a position beside the countries of Europe in those advanced arts in which a generous emulation serves only to produce the greatest good, and the victories in which are accorded to the most intelligent.

The Russian people are eminently calculated to sustain a part in such pursuits, and only wanted liberal Government measures to enable them to develop that ability, good humour, and generosity which are their true characteristics.

The ukase which has given the lower masses their first freedom has been fully promulgated, and our Engraving represents the occasion when—on the 5th (17th) of March—it was read in the Russian churches with the solemnity proper to such a great event as the liberation of a great people, who were at that moment lifting up their voices to Heaven in blessings on the Emperor.

GARIBALDI IN 1854.

THE fourth number of Rodenberg's *Deutsches Magazin* contains an article by Alexander Herzen, from which we borrow this interesting extract:—

"I became more intimately acquainted with Garibaldi at London in 1854, when he returned from South America as captain of a vessel then lying in the West India Docks. I went to visit him with one of his former comrades in the Italian war and with Orsini. In his thick, light-coloured overcoat, his coloured handkerchief round his neck, and his cap, he seemed to me more a perfect seaman than the leader of a Roman army, whose statuette, fantastically attired, was at that day sold all over the globe. The good-humoured simplicity of his behaviour, the absence of all pretentiousness, and the unmistakable kindness of heart with which he received us, soon gained him my liking. His crew was composed chiefly of Italians. He was the head and commander, and a stern commander in the bargain—of that I am convinced—and yet he was beloved and venerated by all, for they were proud of their captain. He gave us breakfast in his cabin, consisting of some peculiarly-prepared South American oysters, dried fruits, and port. All at once he sprang up, exclaiming, 'Stay!

to Newcastle to take in coals for the Mediterranean ports. I told him that his seaman's life pleased me extraordinarily, and that he had chosen the better part among all the refugees. 'And who prevents others from doing the same?' he said warmly. 'It was always my darling dream—you may laugh at it or not—and I still cherish it. The people in America know me. I could have had there three or four ships under my command, and taken on board the whole of the emigrants—the sailors, the officers, and the labourers, would all have been refugees. I ask you, what is to be done now in Europe? A man must either be a slave, or let himself be ruined, or live peaceably in England. Settling in America is even worse; for in that case all is over. That is a land in which a man forgets his native country—he acquires a new home and different interests. Men who settle in America part eternally from our empire. What could be better than my plan? (And here his face glowed.) The whole emigration assembled round a few masts, and traversing the ocean, hardened by a rough sailor's life in a struggle with the elements and danger—that would be a floating emigration, unapproachable and independent, and ever ready to land on any shores.' At this moment he appeared to me like one of the classic heroes—a figure from the *Æneid*—who, had he lived in a different age, would have had his legend and his *Arma virumque cano*."

TRADE.

THE Board of Trade returns for March, which were published on Saturday, furnish proof of the strength of our general commercial position. In spite of the apprehended civil war in America the famine price of money, and the drain in payment for food, the export trade presents a decided recovery. The total shipments of home produce and manufactures for the month are returned at £10,950,830, against £10,393,470 in March, 1860, and £11,313,228 in March, 1859. Compared with the same month of last year, there is an increase of 5 per cent; whereas the exports in February, compared with the same month of last year, showed a decrease of 21 per cent. Consequently, whereas the exports for the first two months of the present year were 18 per cent less than in 1860, those for the first three months are only 9 per cent less than in 1860. Both in the month and three months the figures relating to trade with the United States are, in most instances, below those of the corresponding periods of last year, but the decline is not of much importance, because, during the greater part of the month of March, consignments of goods were hurried forward from this country in order that they might be passed through the American Custom House before the new harsh tariff came into operation. So far, therefore, as the month of March is concerned, it may almost be affirmed that our trade was exempt from the benumbing effects both of the political convulsion and the retrograde fiscal legislation in America. This is shown, for instance, in the case of "cottons," the exports of which in March were £252,032 against £245,404 in March, 1860, and £293,805 in 1861. Future returns must be awaited before we can say to what extent our trade with America is crippled.

But, after all, America is only one of our customers; and if she withdraws for a time it will be strange, because contrary to all experience, if we do not extend our transactions in some other quarter, particularly now that the rate of money has returned to a moderate point. Besides, it is not the whole, but only the Northern section, of "the Union" that has amused itself at a moment of national trial unequalled since the first settlement of the country with devising means for the exclusion of the useful and cheap commodities which we offer. The Southern Confederation has not embarked in a war of tariffs. These are fair reasons why our merchants and manufacturers may view with equanimity even the disturbing events in America.

The accounts received from several of the manufacturing districts are marked by a more cheerful tone. The weather is better; the money market has become comparatively easy; there are no alarming movements of French troops; and the Minister of the new kingdom of Italy has virtually declared that the efforts to wrest Venetia from the enemy will probably not be made this year. The impression with regard to the future is, therefore, of rather a more settled kind, and business, upon the whole, has slightly improved.

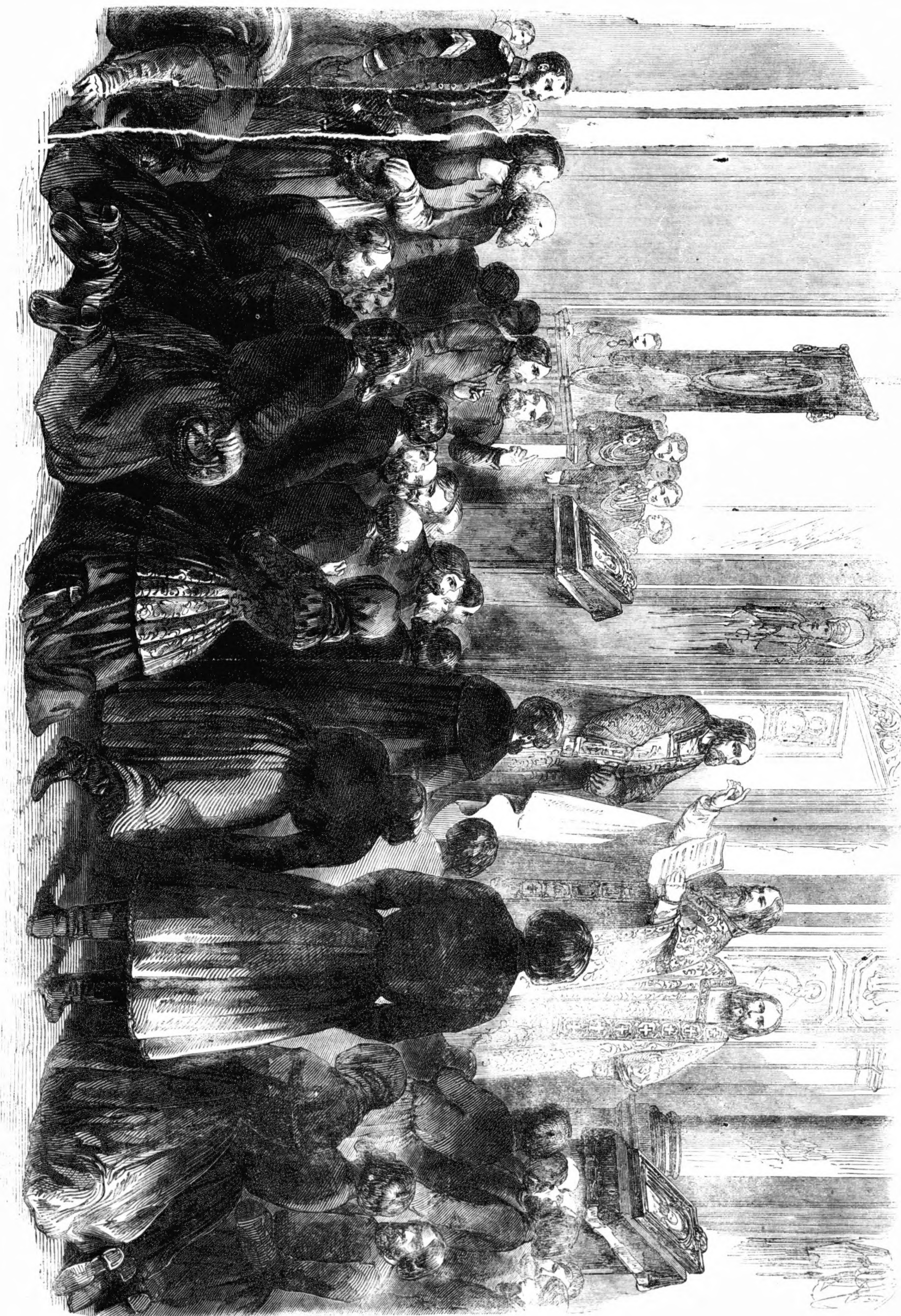
AN ENGLISH LEGACY TO THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.—The following extraordinary bequest appears in the will of the late Mr. George Wilson, late of Carstairs Lodge, near Wigton:—"I give and bequeath unto the person for the time being Emperor of China the sum of nineteen pounds nineteen shillings as a mark of my gratitude for the uniform attention with which I was treated by the officials of that empire during my visit there in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five."



OMER PACHA RECEIVING THE SULTAN'S FIRMAN APPOINTING HIM TO THE COMMAND OF THE ARMY OF ROUMELIA

I must drink another wine with you,"—ran up the companion, and presently a sailor brought in a bottle. What might not be expected from a man who had just come from the other side of the ocean? It was, however, nothing more than belette, a country wine of Nice, Garibaldi's home, which he had brought back from Monte Video. I felt, through our simple, social converse, that I was in the presence of an extraordinarily powerful nature. Without employing phrases or commonplaces, he displayed himself perfectly as the popular leader who had astounded even old soldiers by his bravery, and it was easy to recognise in this simple ship captain the wounded lion who, after the fall of Rome, retired only step by step, and when he had lost his comrades called together soldiers, peasants, robbers, any one he could find in San Marino, Ravenna, Lombardy, Tessino, in order to deal a fresh blow at the enemy. And all this took place over the corpse of his wife, who had succumbed to the fatigues and terror of such a campaign. So early as 1854 his views varied from those of Mazzini, although they remained good friends. He told Mazzini in my presence that it would not be well to offend the Piedmontese Government; the main object now was to shake off the Austrian yoke; and he doubted greatly whether Italy were so ripe for a United Republic as Mazzini thought. He was decidedly averse from any attempt at a revolution. When he sailed from London

IN FRONT OF A RUSSIAN CHURCH DURING THE READING OF THE DECADE FOR THE EMANCIPATION OF THE SLAVES



at the signing of the Treaty of Vienna about a Polish Constitution, but no precise pledge was given that Poland should be governed constitutionally. The great mistake, however, made by those who speak of reconstituting Poland, as though it were the simplest and easiest thing in the world, is in confounding the modern with the ancient kingdom, and in not perceiving that the partition of ancient Poland between Russia, Austria, and Prussia has been sanctioned by the representatives of all the European States in council assembled. That it was unjust, infamous, cruel, has nothing to do with the question before us. It was recognised by Europe; and, though the Emperor of Russia was recommended, and agreed, to govern his portion of Poland as a separate kingdom, nothing was stipulated for in leaving to Austria Galicia, and to Prussia Posen and her other Polish provinces. Yet Prussia's asserted right to a portion of Poland was founded on nothing more substantial than some long-extinguished feudal claims of the Teutonic Knights, while that of Austria was based merely upon some ancient treaties of alliance between the Polish and Hungarian Kings. Russia, though at the first partition she did no more than reannex the southern portion of her empire (including Kieff, which in the days of the Grand Princes was the Russian capital), had no more title to Warsaw or to any portion of Poland proper than either Austria or Prussia. She might, to be sure, have pleaded the right of conquest over an ancient enemy; but this would be a dangerous principle indeed to recognise, for, if the occupation of Moscow by the Poles in 1612 justified the Russians in taking possession of Warsaw in 1815, the French, invaded by all Europe in 1814, would at the present time have a much better right (because of less ancient date) to carry a hostile force into any European capital that they might be able to seize upon.

No; if the Poles think fit to make a general movement on behalf of their independence (hitherto, be it observed, the Russian Poles have alone distinguished themselves in that manner), they must not look to Europe for aid; or, if so, they must wait for some opportunity, such as doubtless would have presented itself at the time of the Crimean War, if Prussia and Austria had dared to take part with Russia. At present the Hungarians and Italians, by urging the Poles to insurrection, have only been making use of them so as to warn Russia not to interfere any where on behalf of Austria. It is just possible that some day the Poles will be able to make use of the Hungarians and Italians, in which case, however, the "nationalities" would have to fight not only against Austria, but against Austria, Russia, and Prussia combined.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The duration of the Session of the French Legislative Chamber has been prolonged by an Imperial decree to the 4th of June inclusive. It was found wholly impossible to get through the duties of the Session in the time ordinarily occupied. The *Patrie* of Saturday declares that the rumoured withdrawal of the French troops from Rome is without foundation, and proceeds to state that the object of the French occupation is not merely the security of the Pope, but also to ensure peace to Italy herself, which the departure of the troops would endanger by leaving Austria and Piedmont directly face to face with each other. For this reason, the *Patrie* avers, all the European Powers, with England at their head, see without regret the prolongation of the stay of the French soldiers in Rome.

The report gains ground that France does not intend to withdraw her troops from Syria at the stipulated period, but that she proposes to keep there 2500 men, inviting England and Russia each to land 500 marines and add them to her forces, in order to protect the Maronites.

A bill for calling out 100,000 men of the class 1861 has been presented to the Corps Legislatif.

SPAIN.

The Spanish correspondent of the *Independence Belge* says:—"Numerous arrests continue to be made in Andalusia, under the pretext that the accused manifested an intention of embracing the Protestant religion. At Malaga nine well-known citizens and one woman were arrested and kept in close confinement. All these arrests have been made upon information given by neo-Catholics."

The unexpected treasures the public resources have found in the realisation of Church lands (which have produced to the country's exchequer just double the amount of official calculations) are said to be the secret of Spain's energy of late both at home and abroad.

The disappearance of Don Juan from London has put the whole seaboard authorities on the *qui vive*. Every steamer on the Mediterranean coast is signalled far out at sea, and precautions taken at its approach.

The Empress of Austria has arrived at Cadiz. The *Correspondencia Autografa* announces that the Emperor Napoleon has congratulated Queen Isabella II. on the reincorporation of San Domingo with Spain.

ITALY.

In Naples some slight disturbances have taken place, in which some of the National Guard were concerned. Signor Spaventa, who was always rather an unpopular functionary, had issued a circular prohibiting the National Guard from wearing their uniform unless on duty, and in consequence some few of the body made a kind of demonstration against him. Good order, however, was easily restored, partly by means of a proclamation from Prince Carignan and partly by the disavowal of any disorderly proceedings on the part of the whole body of the National Guard. Signor Spaventa remains in office. A grand banquet is about to be given by the National Guard to the regular army.

The provinces of Naples still appear very much disturbed, though the reports we have of the riots are generally too highly coloured. It is significant that the year's financial result for the southern district of King Victor's dominions exhibits a surplus of revenue over expenditure to the extent of nine million ducats, though in Sicily there is an admitted deficit in that island exchequer of six millions.

Troops have been dispatched to the Roman frontier, where brigandage and Bourbonism are still active.

The Turin Chamber has accepted, with some modification, the principle of Garibaldi's project for the national armament. It will be seen by a report in another column that the reconciliation between Garibaldi and Cavour was brought about by the King. The people manifested great satisfaction when the reconciliation became known. At Naples feeling ran very high in favour of Garibaldi against

Cavour. We are told that in Southern Italy "the fanaticism for Garibaldi's name, especially amongst the lower classes, assumes very curious forms. There are poor women who keep tapers burning before his picture as they would before that of their patron saint or of the Blessed Virgin. Addresses are now in circulation inviting him to return to Naples."

The young men of Pavia honoured Garibaldi with an ovation while he was visiting a friend residing near Pavia. The *Opinione* has news from Palermo to the 28th ult., stating that a popular assembly had been held there at which shouts of "Long live Garibaldi!" were raised. The assembly was dispersed by the National Guard.

The Italian Government is about to present a bill to the Chamber of Deputies authorising a loan of 500,000,000 francs.

The Emperor of Morocco has recognised the kingdom of Italy. The Duchess Regent of Parma has protested, in the following terms, against the assumption of the title of King of Italy by Victor Emmanuel:—

We, Louise Maria de Bourbon, Regent of the States of Parma for Duke Robert I.,

By our declarations, dated St. Gall, June 20, 1859, and Zurich, March 23, 1860, we protested against the usurpation of the States of our well-beloved son, Duke Robert I., usurpation committed by the Government of the King of Sardinia, and which it has sought to make believed as being brought about by the free vote of the people.

That usurpation having extended to almost the whole of the Italian peninsula, the King of Sardinia has taken the title of King of Italy.

Against this last act, which confirms all the usurpations which have been effected in the short space of two years, to the detriment of the legitimate Sovereigns of Italy, and which has again injured the sovereign rights of our son, an Italian Prince, we have the duty to protest, as we do solemnly protest, thus making a fresh appeal to the sentiments of justice of the friendly Powers, who certainly cannot see with an indifferent eye these repeated outrages on the faith of treaties.

Château of Wartegg, in Switzerland, this 10th day of April, 1861,

LOUISE.

PRUSSIA.

In the Prussian Chamber of Deputies the Polish members brought forward another motion a few days back with reference to the manner in which the nationality of Poland has been torn from her. No result, however, came of the motion. The Chamber, by a large majority, passed to the order of the day. The Minister of the Interior, in replying, declared that the Government were determined to check the agitation in the Duchy of Posen, to discourage it if it should continue merely pacific, and to suppress it by force if it presented itself in such a shape as to call for such repression.

The Prussian Government has laid before the Chamber of Deputies an estimate of the military expenditure, from which it appears that the additional expense attending the new organisation of the army amounts for 1861 to six millions of thalers, of which three millions and a half will be a permanent charge on the Budget, whereas the other two millions and a half figure as extraordinary expenses. The twenty-five per cent added to the different taxes have produced 3,670,000 thalers, so that little more than two millions remain to be provided.

A diplomatic difference has arisen between our Government and that of the Brazils.

The Municipal Council of Berlin decided on the 26th ult. that all the documents relative to the malversations in the police administration should be submitted to the State prosecutor, in order that judicial proceedings should be instituted against the President of Police, M. de Zedlitz, and the chief constable, M. Patzke. This decision, which was publicly announced, produced a great sensation in the city.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The Austrian Provincial Diet met on Monday, and both Chambers appointed their Presidents and Vice-Presidents. Prince Charles von Auersperg was chosen President of the Upper House, the Archduke Albert having declined the appointment.

The Emperor, in his opening speech, said:—

It affords me the greatest satisfaction to greet to-day in this assembly the Imperial Princes, the high dignitaries of the Church, and the heads of the noble families of the country.

I also welcome the Deputies. I have been deeply moved by the many addresses of thanks which I have received from the Provincial Diets. I consider them as a token for the future which is rich in hope.

I am convinced that free institutions, accompanied by a conscientious protection of the equal rights of all the nationalities and the equality of all citizens, will lead to a safe reorganisation of the whole monarchy. With this aim in view I sanctioned the introduction of tried constitutional forms. A liberal policy shall be equally developed in all parts of the empire, with special regard for the historical traditions of the provinces.

I desire to learn positively, through the mouths of the representatives of the people, what they consider best for the welfare of the country.

It is necessary to show the world that political, national, and religious differences do not form an insurmountable obstacle to a national understanding.

Austria is powerful enough safely to carry out the development of her internal interests. She will inspire no fear abroad, because we shall avoid all passionate excitement.

Relying on the justice of my policy and on the intelligence of the peoples, I expect a satisfactory solution of the question of the representation of Hungary, Transylvania, Croatia, and Slavonia. As soon as they shall understand the real state of things they will be inspired with the necessity for and the advantage of the institutions I have granted, and will then justify my confidence by their actions, and I shall see around me with the greatest satisfaction the representatives of the whole monarchy. I hope to enjoy undisturbed the blessings of peace. Europe feels the same want, as she wishes to repose from the agitation of recent times, and to recover her equilibrium.

This universal feeling imposes upon the Powers the duty of not exposing the precious treasure of peace to any danger. Austria acknowledges this duty, which has also been admitted by the other Powers, in order to give herself up to work for the general welfare.

Estimates will be submitted to you for establishing an equilibrium between the income and expenditure, and also proposals for the introduction of desirable modifications in some branches of the revenue, and for the settlement of the relations between the National Bank and the State.

The Emperor concluded as follows:—

I acknowledge the duty which, as a Sovereign, I have assumed before all nations, to protect with all my power the Constitution of the whole empire in the sense of the diploma of October and February last, as the inviolable foundation of the unity and indivisibility of the whole monarchy; and it is my firm intention to repel any violation of the same as an attack on the existence of the monarchy, and on the rights of all the provinces and nationalities.

There are still rumours of an approaching agreement between the Cabinet of Vienna and that party of the Hungarian Diet who are represented by MM. Deak and Eotvos, but who, it must be remembered, by no means include the advanced and determined nationalists of the country. The proposed arrangement, if it be what several newspapers describe it, is something very cumbersome, and open to much objection. It is projected that every measure affecting Hungary and Austria shall be prepared in the first instance by the combined Ministries, then submitted to the two Assemblies, by whom it would be referred to commissions. The two commissions should work together, and produce a joint report, either both adopting the scheme or setting forth their separate opinions. Both Legislatures would then have the proposal and the objections to it fully before them. Should the decision of the Austrian and Hungarian Legislatures disagree, an appeal to the country and the convocation of new Assemblies must take place, if the measure were one of great importance. If not, the proposal might be withdrawn. Such is alleged to be the outline of the proposed arrangement.

The funeral of President Palvezy took place at Pesth on Monday. Nearly all the inhabitants were present. No disturbance took place. All the houses were draped with black. National songs were sung by the students, and patriotic speeches were delivered.

RUSSIA AND POLAND.

The Russian Government continues its restrictive measures against the Poles. All the towns of Poland are now militarily occupied, and the Colleges of Warsaw and Kalisch have been closed. The Governor

of Poland has given orders for the prosecution of all clergymen who may excite the people by their preaching; and a number of the principal inhabitants of Warsaw have even been forbidden to receive company at their houses. Under these circumstances it is by no means surprising that several of the Poles to whom the Government applied for an opinion for organising a new Council of State declined to give one.

Fifty-seven Russian Generals are said to have received leave of absence. One of them is Prince Peter Gortschakoff—not the Minister for Foreign Affairs, nor the Lieutenant-Governor of Poland, but the brother of the latter.

Monday was the anniversary of the Emperor's birthday. Instead of participating in the customary rejoicings, the people of Warsaw remained indoors, closed their shops, and in the evening refused to illuminate their houses.

An incident has just taken place at Wilna which has produced considerable sensation throughout the whole of Lithuania. The tanners, who carry on a business which is very important for the prosperity of that town, lately sent a petition to the Emperor, praying for the realisation of the privileges which had been formerly granted them by the Emperor Nicholas. The petition was sent back from St. Petersburg to the Governor of Wilna, M. Nazimoff, who threw all the signers of it into prison. The authorities at Warsaw have withdrawn the permission they had given for the erection of a monumental tomb to the victims of the 27th of February. It is affirmed that the sanctuary of Notre Dame de Chewslovska is about to be closed for some time. The ladies of Warsaw were to proceed thither on a pilgrimage on the 8th inst., but were informed that detachments of Cossacks would be stationed on the road to bar the passage. They replied that such a measure would not make them relinquish their intentions, and that they were determined to incur any risk rather than renounce the pilgrimage. Under these circumstances the authorities, wishing to avoid fresh difficulties, resolved that the sanctuary should be closed for two months.

The Court of Appeal at Modlen has declared all the persons who were arrested during the late events to be not guilty.

The Russian Government has published in the *St. Petersburg Gazette* a sort of reply to the criticism of the European press and public upon the late events in Warsaw. The official organ maintains that the demonstrations which commenced with the ostentation of religious ceremonies always ended in open attacks upon the Russian soldiery. No regular Government, it declares, could tolerate such persistent and systematic attempts at anarchy. But the *Gazette* denies that any intention exists on the part of the Imperial Government to make the recent occurrences a pretext for withdrawing the concessions offered to Poland. These concessions, it declares, shall be faithfully carried out, unless the benevolent intentions of the Sovereign should be paralysed by violence. The *Journal de St. Petersburg* publishes an article which says:—"The last war in Italy, the success of a fortunate soldier, the contagious example of Hungary, and the declamation of the foreign press on the policy of developing nationalities, have exercised a great influence on Poland." The article also states that the Government can reckon on the support of the rural population.

The late orders about not wearing mourning, carrying sticks, &c., in Warsaw have given rise to all sorts of absurdities. The shopkeepers were ordered to take all signs of mourning dresses, &c., out of their windows, on which they all, with one accord, exhibited things only of the two colours, red and green—the former signifying bloodshed and the latter hope—and actually a fresh order has been issued forbidding these colours to appear. Everybody is obliged to carry a lantern who is out after ten o'clock at night, so all sorts of devices have been resorted to to render this order ridiculous. Two school-boys were seen marching through the streets, between nine and ten in the morning, with a tiny lantern suspended on a huge pole, in the manner in which the soldiers carry their soup. Again, between five and six in the evening, a man might be seen bearing two lighted lanterns suspended on each end of a stick; and another with a lantern fastened to his coat in front, in the fashion of an order. Another made the tour of the town in a droschka, with an enormous Chinese lantern on each side of him, and so on.

When the order for leaving off mourning first appeared the English and Prussian Consuls-General went to the Prince and told him they had been ordered by their own Sovereigns to wear mourning, and they therefore intended doing so, but they decidedly objected to the idea of having it forcibly torn off by the patrols appointed for that purpose. So the Prince caused papers to be drawn up containing a permission to wear mourning, "or anything they liked," which were given to the British Consul General, Vice-Consul, and Chaplain, and to the Prussian Consul, who now accordingly walk about the town each with his crape on his hat and his "permit" in his pocket, bearing the autograph of the most merciful General Zablocki.

In a private letter (written evidently by no friend of the Emperor's) we read the following account of the last disturbance:—

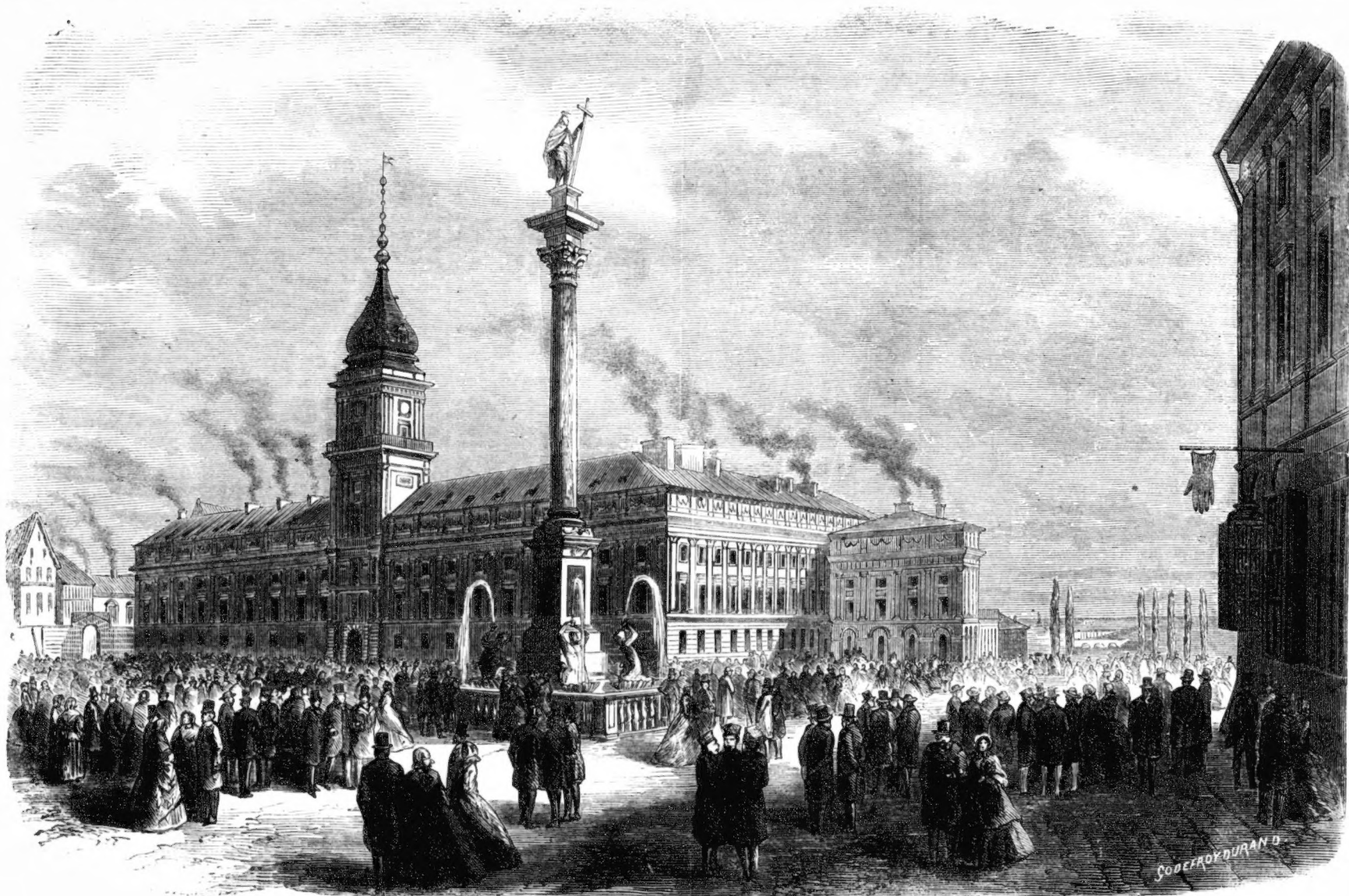
Previous to the butchery the troops were made perfectly drunk, to give them courage to charge the unarmed crowd, and to that state you must ascribe the number of wounded on the part of the Russians. Positively, they were so drunk as not to know the meaning of the national dress, and harangued to kill everybody that wore mourning or the national dress, and that, too, without distinction of age or sex; and they did charge right and left, and often fell upon their own men, especially when another part of the troops came from the opposite direction. The people could not kill any, for none had even a stick, the Governor having formerly prohibited such a weapon under the pretext that it might be "loaded." So, if there be dead or wounded on the part of the Russians, it must be owing to the fact alluded to, or because they could not tell Europe that there are about 200 wounded and dead on the part of the Poles, and not one Russian.

It is a positive fact that the Russian troops who had been long in Warsaw refused to charge on the unarmed, and the artillery to fire, and to this fact must be ascribed the impunity so long enjoyed by the citizens of Warsaw. Poor otherwise 22,000 were quite enough to bayonet the whole procession. Poor Captain Popoff was shot within twenty-four hours for having refused the Grand charge with his troops the crowd that was at that time passing the Grand Theatre. An Aide-de-Camp ordered him to do so in the name of the Czar. "No, Sir, I do not charge the unarmed," said he; "I am not a butcher, but worse than the butcher, for he kills the beast, not out of humour, but to feed the people. A gallant officer never draws his sword against the unarmed women and children. I know what waits me; so you had better report that, having refused to charge on the unarmed, Captain Popoff tore off his epaulets and broke his sword." And, poor man, he died as a hero. Many of the officers dipped their handkerchiefs in his blood, and carry them about as mementoes of true Russian courage and honour. Two other officers of lower rank were also thus executed. All officers present on the ground in the citadel cried during that dreadful ceremony; not one had dry eyes—not even the greatest enemies of the Pole; for they, too, understood military honour. I cannot give you further details, for, in fact, nobody knows how many have fallen. The military carry off the dead and wounded; but the fact is that all the large square before the Prince's Palace was covered with blood. The troops—about 3000—first discharged a *bout portant* into the thick of the crowd, and then charged both with the bayonet and lance (for more than two regiments of Cossacks had honourable part in that glorious battle-field). First Alexander II. played farce before Europe, and now he performs tragedies with terrible effect. Yet Europe is still his dupe. They always believe he is kindly and liberally inclined.

DENMARK.

The Minister of Marine has, in the interest of the mercantile marine, issued an ordinance permitting the sailors lately called out to be sent on leave of absence, part of them at once, and part later. The ordinance stipulates, however, that they may not go beyond the Baltic and the North Sea, in order that they may be recalled at the very shortest notice. Orders have at the same time been given for the fitting out of one ship-of-the-line, one frigate, and a war steamer.

The representative of Denmark delivered on the 27th, in the sitting of the Germanic Diet at Frankfort, the final reply of the Danish Government to the demand addressed to them by the Confederation on the 7th of February. The Danish Government declare that they have made all the concessions to the Estates, of Holstein which are compatible with the monarchical principle and the unity



THE PALACE SQUARE AT WARSAW.



'QUIET.'—(FROM A PICTURE, BY H. S. MARKS, IN THE PORTLAND GALLERY.)



THE GUARDS' MEMORIAL.—(DESIGNED BY JOHN BELL.)

from duelling to dog-fighting. At length, however, at the latter end of the seventeenth century, the land was purchased for building purposes, and, says Evelyn in his "Diary," under the date of the 5th of October, 1694, "I went to see the buildings near Saint Giles's, where Seven Dials make a star from a Doric pillar placed in the middle of a circular area." Then began the most respectable period of St. Giles's existence. Monmouth street was built and christened after the Earl of that name, who resided in Soho-square. Dudley-court contained the mansion of the Duchess Dudley, and in Lloyd's-court Lord Wharton and Lord Lisle took up their abodes. Compton-street was built and christened after Sir Francis Compton, who there resided. Sir John Brownlow, Sir Lewis Lewkner, and other celebrities likewise occupied houses in streets branching from the Seven Dials.

How the neighbourhood fell from its highest estate, how it passed so completely into the hands of the Irish, history sayeth not. The thousands of French Protestants who on the revocation of the edict of Nantes passed over to this country, and took up their residence in places where house rent was cheap, may perhaps account for such places as Seven Dials growing less respectable, but it certainly does not dispose of the Irish question. It is, of course, an extremely foolish idea; but when one sees nobody but Irish people, never Scotch, never Welsh, the sole inhabitants of localities given over to filth and squalor, one is almost brought to entertain the question—is it the Irish that make wretchedness and depravity, or is it wretchedness and depravity that make people Irish?

Let it be how it may, one thing is certain, the Irish have got hold of Seven Dials beyond redemption. St. Giles's and the Irish are identical, and I seriously believe it to be the popular impression that the saint in question as properly belongs to Ireland as does Saint Patrick himself, and at present there is little reason to suppose that the memory of the one will die out a day before the other. St. Giles die, indeed! Not he. Assailed as he has been for seven hundred and fifty years by leprosy, by plague, by fire, oppressed by the weight of the gallows, and stripped and routed by the officers of the law, and the Sanitary Commissioners and the Board of Works, he is as cheerful as ever. He is like an eel, and has been treated as one—beheaded, and chopped into little bits; but every bit is still full of life, and leaping.

There is one particular bit of this loathsome eel—a very little bit it is—lying between Earl-street and Castle-street, and known as Neale's passage (Neale was the individual who set up the Doric pillar that Evelyn saw). It was broad noon when I paused at the mouth of the passage, and, attracted by the sound of music and rejoicing, looked down. Midway in the grimy thoroughfare (which contained about twenty tall houses), and reclining on a costermonger's barrow, were two Irish pipers—real Irish pipers, such as never in my life before have I seen in London—with genuine long-tailed coats and tall, jauntily-cocked hats, piping an inspiring tune, while swarming the road and pathway were a great number of the female sex, some dancers, some lookers-on. Some of the females were hideous, yellow-fanged, and smoke-dried hags, wearing nightcaps with full and flapping borders; some were muscular creatures, brawny-limbed, and middle-aged, with a manly expression of countenance, and with their hair first twisted into a wisp about as smooth and certainly as thick as a hayband, and then bunched up and secured by a substantial knot behind; some were little, old, slovenly-boomed, draggled women of sixteen; while others, again, were straight-limbed, comely damsels, with teeth defiant of neglect, and with rosinosa of a strength superior to all opposition. These latter, for the most part, wore handkerchiefs over their heads and tied under the chin.

From almost every half-glazed, rag-stuffed window in the face of the tall houses protruded a head, sometimes two heads, more or less hideous, the lips, as a rule, bearing a filthy little pipe. Equally as a rule were the upper windows garnished with reeking rags suspended to dry on the thrust-forth clothes-prop, or with ropes of onions, or with shreds of dried cod or some other such dainties, the outer wall being the only place beyond the reach of the picking and stealing digits of little children, hungry as wolves in mid-winter. Some of the down-looking heads were haggard and wan, and nightcapped, engendering a suspicion that the unseen bodies were lying abed helplessly; while other lookers-out, bright-eyed and eager, and strumming on the window-sills the tune the pipers are playing, looked as if they would willingly have joined the merry party below if they had aught else to cover their shoulders than the scrap of blanket or bedquilt that now adorns them.

Only two of the dancers—there were ten or a dozen of them—danced at one time, while the rest squatted on the thresholds of the wide-open doors, or leaned cross-legged against the walls, or sat on the kerb and regained their spent breath, while at the same time they cooled their slaphop feet in the gutter. With the exception of the pipers there were no men present, which went far to show that it was neither wake, wedding, nor extraordinary merrymaking, but merely an ordinary afternoon's piping by the ordinary St. Giles's pipers, whose Christian names were familiar in the mouths of the dancers who ordered Barney to play "fashter," and rebuked "Mike Sullivan, bad luck to yez!" for keeping incorrect time.

Being within a stone's cast of Monmouth-court, it occurred to me to go and see how fared the prince of ballad-mongers, the dying-speech merchant-printer, John Catnach. Narrow is Monmouth-court—scarcely so wide as an ordinary chamber doorway—and so low at the arched entrance that the tall policeman who emerged as I entered slackened at the knees involuntarily. It astonished me but little to find the great publisher in such dismal quarters—great firms seldom court publicity, and, although it had passed from the hands of the original founder, that the firm was still great, was evident from the existence of a board at the entrance, announcing "Thomas Fortey, late William Ryle, sole successor to T. Catnach."

Alas! a cruel surprise awaited me. Instead of the extensive premises, instead of the creaking of the "crane," the tick-tack of the packers for exportation, and the heads of the ledger clerks visible above the opaque bottom row of counting-house windows, I found the renowned Catnach printing and publishing establishment to be as dismal-looking a little den as it is possible to conceive. Of the decline of the dying-speech business I was already aware, but to find it as completely all over with halfpenny ballads one was hardly prepared. So it is, however; at least judging from the samples of "stock" exhibited behind the grimy little panes with which is glazed the shop of the successor of the immortal Catnach. The singing public has kept pace with the reading public, and two songs, or two and a half, even though they be of the most pathetic character, printed on seven inches by five of dirty white tissue paper, could hardly hope to realise a halfpenny while five-and-twenty square feet of politics and police news can be had, hot from the press, for a penny. No! The singing public has burst the chains that bound it to the flimsy halfpenny ballad, and will be pacified with nothing less for a penny than a "Giant Warbler," or a "Doodah Songster," or a "Concert Companion," sixteen pages at least, and with a coloured illustration. Not to be behind the times, these Mr. Fortey provides (there is an entire row of specimens in his window, together with farthing "Cock Robins," and "Goody Two-shoes," and penny "Norwood Gipsies"); but if he has, as he must have, any considerable number of the shabby little ballads by him, he will do well to take my advice, and refrain from disposing of them at a sacrifice on the speculation that they may one day again come into fashion. Why not? When I was a very little boy the current cheap literature of the day consisted of "Varney the Vampire," "Claude Duval, the Dashing Highwayman," "The Patch of Gore," &c. Gradually, however, there grew an army of wholesome periodicals that did battle with the vampires and the dashing highwaymen, and routed the miscreants, and ruled in their stead. Vampire literature came to be regarded as a curiosity

belonging to a past and barbarous age, and, whenever an odd volume of the kind was discovered in the fourpenny box at a bookstall, was bought as such, to be laughed at and ridiculed. Will Claude Duval ever more hold his weekly levées? Will the people ever again consent to assist at the Vampire's "feast of blood"? Ha! ha! present posterous! Will tinder-boxes again come into fashion? Will folks believe in witchcraft, or the broth of a boiled mouse ever again be looked on as an infallible remedy for whooping-cough? If the question had been asked me ten years ago I should have replied "Certainly not;" but when, in the year 1861, I see Women with Yellow Hair, and Blue Dwarfs, and Modern Jack Shepherds, vigorously rearing their ugly heads, I decline altogether to hazard an opinion on the subject.

From Monmouth-court to Monmouth-street; the atmosphere of which is thickened and soured perpetually by the exhalations emitted from great stores of mildewed shoe-leather and ancient clothing, passive and disturbed by renovating processes. The houses in Monmouth-street are tall and spacious, but from the last-mentioned cause the uppermost chambers are as murky as basement floors in salubrious localities. Below the bazy attics are two and even three floors, then the shop, and beneath, so deep that a flight of fifteen wide-apart steps barely reach from the street pavement to the bottom, are the cellars—mere black pits—swarming with inhabitants, not chickens nor rabbits, nor rats or other sort of vermin, but human beings—babies and grandmothers, and broad-shouldered men, and hoary-headed men, and little old women, and matronly dames.

It should be distinctly understood that when I speak of these underground dwellings (several feet below the sewers) as cellars I apply to them no other than their proper and recognised appellation. They have just the ordinary double flap one sees closing the entrance to the beer-cellar of a public-house, and when one becomes vacant "This cellar to let" will be chalked on the said flap. It would seem that we are indebted to St. Giles for this amongst other eyesores, for the books pertaining to the affairs of his parish bear the earliest record of cellar-dwellers. "To prevent the great influx of poor people into this parish," says an entry dated 1637, "ordered that the beadles do present every fortnight, on the Sunday, the names of all new comers, under-setters, and persons that have families in cellars, and other abuses." For more than two hundred years then has the doctor scrambled down those cellar steps to let more life into the world, and the undertaker has grasped the muddy rails, shouldering out of the deep hole the coffin dead to lay it nearer the earth's surface than ever it was—for any length of time—while in life. As I looked down at broad afternoon there burned (as I suppose ever has burned) the flickering, yellow-flamed candle, and there, bent by labour and age to the shape of a beast, squatted the lank-haired tailor (as I suppose he has ever squatted), plucking the needle from the seam as though a life depended on each stitch, whilst his wife was sucking the baby, and sewing the buttons to a pair of trousers, and toasting a herring for the tailor's tea, while from the far depths of the cellar's gloom came the hilarious voices of the tailor's many children; and ever and again their half-naked forms might be dimly distinguished flitting, goblin-like, round the turn-up bedstead, the many hangings of which waved feebly in the breeze they created.

Through White Lion-street and into Great St. Andrew's, where the bird market is, and to see which was the prime object of my visit to St. Giles's. Such a Babel of bird music! In an atmosphere composed chiefly of pestiferous exhalations and the choking steams that rose from the rank pans of the Jew fish-fryers, there they were, with their cages closely packed on each other—starlings, and black-birds, and thrushes, and finches of the "chaff," and the "gold," and the "bull" kind; and English larks, and foreign canaries, fiercely yelling out their music, as though they had all gone stark mad. Perhaps they had. I almost hope so. Bird music is so intimately associated with hedges, and orchards, and cornfields—the little feathered songsters have credit for such elevated sentiments—that to discover, after all, that a lark will sing as well in a fried-fish shop as when sailing in the sun over a clover-meadow would be unpleasant. No! The birds of St. Andrew's must be insane, every lark and finch of them.

Birds of song were not the only sort vended in St. Andrew's-street. There were in big wicker cages Aylesbury ducks and Spanish hens, and bantams, and suspicious-looking cock birds, sleek and small of breast and spiky of spur, and geese and pigeons of every size and shape, and ravens, and parrots. Then there were houses for song-birds, from the threepenny wire-and-deal edifice to the magnificent pagoda cage with mandarin-bells, for genteel canaries. Bird-food, too: "German paste," hampers full of snails, and many-legged meal-worms animating horribly the measure of bran in which they were kept.

The bird merchants dealt likewise in rats and dogs. "Rats bought and sold" was advertised on boards hung against the door-posts; and, if you peeped within the squalid little shops, there you saw scores of rats in iron cages, clambering over each other, and hurrying ceaselessly round and round, nosing at every interstice, in hopes to find one wide enough to squeeze their bodies through; while slim-waisted terriers, with jaws agape and straining at their tethers, fiercely barked their earnest desire that the vermin might presently be successful. There were other dogs beside the ratters—dogs for the "lap," great spotted dogs, stupid and flunkey-looking, for the carriage, and great surly hounds with pink eyes and hanging lips, faithful watch-dogs, and with sharp teeth for the calves of the midnight burglar. Every now and then rising above the mad bird-music and the jabbering of the starlings, and the clucking of the cocks and hens, and the melancholy cooing of the pigeons, came the sharp howl of a dog in pain. I wonder what ailed him? Outside one of the shops was the picture of a terrier with a pair of big shears straddled over him, and the legend, "Dogs trimmed, eightpence," underneath. Was the poor howling wretch undergoing the trimming torture? I hurried from the dreadful place, followed by the fitful yelps, and almost fancying I could hear the horrid blades snipping off its poor little ears.

J. G.

FASHIONS FOR MAY.

THOUGH the amplitude of skirts may be said to be increasing rather than diminishing, yet they are frequently less full at the waist than at the lower part. This effect is produced by cutting off or turning in a portion of the upper part of each breadth. Ball dresses, or indeed any robes of thin textures, are usually made with the fulness undiminished at the upper part of the skirt.

A dinner dress of mauve-coloured gaze Chambers, intended for half-mourning, has recently been made with five flounces, finished with broad hems, each flounce having a heading, also hemmed. The corsage was low, and with it was worn a small pelerine crossed over the bosom and the ends drawn under the ceinture, which was fastened in front of the waist by a buckle. The sleeves, wide and pointed at the ends, were finished with frills in the same style as the flounces. Many robes of foulard are now trimmed with flat bands, edged at each side by narrow quillings or ruches, either of the colour of the foulard or of a hue harmonising with it. Dresses of glacé intended for out-door costume are frequently trimmed at the bottom of the skirt with a broad quilling of the same silk, edged with piping of a different colour. Dresses of black silk trimmed in this style have sometimes two or three narrow quillings edged with violet, each row of quilling being separated by a narrow flounce of violet. Casaquos of black silk trimmed with black lace are extremely fashionable in Paris for promenade dress. Some have sleeves turned up with broad revers, and ornamented with soutache; others are trimmed with rich passementerie covering all the seams.

The favourite shape for bonnets is that which has the front pointed and slightly raised, thereby affording space for the bandeau, or the

tiara-wreath composed of flowers. Frequently a single large flower is worn in the centre of the forehead, as shown in our Illustration (fig. 1). For bonnets suitable to a superior style of out-door costume, paille-de-riz, crin, and crape are the materials most generally adopted. Bonnets of black tulle and lace, so much in fashion a few seasons ago, have partially reappeared. We have seen one of a very elegant kind, tastefully trimmed with roses without leaves, and disposed in an oblique line. The under-trimming consisted of three roses separated by ruches of white blonde.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Fig. 1.—Gabrielle robe of pink and white striped taffety, ornamented up the front with rosettes of white and pink ribbon. The sleeves are wide, and formed of one plain piece in front, to which a full piece is attached at the back of the arm. The sleeves are also ornamented with rosettes like those on the front of the dress. Bonnet of white crape with a bayonet of blonde, and trimmed with a pink feather and bows of pink ribbon. The inside trimming consists of a ruche of blonde and a large pink rose in the centre of the forehead. Strings of broad pink ribbon. Collar and under-sleeves of worked muslin.

Fig. 2.—Robe of plain grey silk and pardessus of black cashmere. At the back the pardessus is of the bournous form, and in front it has broad revers, narrow at the waist and gradually widening as they descend. They are trimmed, like the sleeves and the lower edge of the pardessus, with a broad band of violet-coloured velvet, crossed at intervals by rows of narrow black velvet, finished at each end by gold rings. The sleeves are very wide, and terminate in points, one of which is finished by a tassel. Bonnet of violet-coloured crape, trimmed in the inside with a tiara-wreath formed of violets and ivy-leaves. Ruches of blonde at each side.

Fig. 3.—Robe of black silk. At the edge of the skirt are two narrow flounces. Above them is a broad bouillonne of green silk, crossed by ruches of black, set on in points, and fixed at each point by gold fancy buttons. The sleeves are close to the wrists and slashed with green silk, crossed with black ruches, in the same style as the trimming on the skirt of the dress. The front of the corsage is ornamented in a corresponding manner. The headdress consists of a ruche of lilac and white silk.

Fig. 4.—Robe of grey silk, trimmed with bands of crimson velvet in the manner shown in the Illustration. Headdress of white blonde, disposed in the form of a cache-peigne, and a tiara-wreath of small roses in front.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

"William Tell," Rossini's masterpiece, and, in spite of the wretched libretto on which it is founded, the operatic masterpiece of the century, was produced at the Royal Italian Opera last Tuesday with an admirable cast and with great magnificence as regards scenery and appointments. The principal characters were sustained by Mesdames Miolan-Carvalho (Matilde) and Rudersdorff (Jenny); MM. Formes (Walter), Faure (Tell), Polonini (Melchthal), Neri-Beraldi (the Fisherman), Tagliafico (Gessler), and Tambril (Arnold). The overture was encored and repeated, the slow movement of the trio in the second act and Signor Tambril's solo in act 3 (the celebrated "Suevi moi") were encored, but not repeated. The execution generally was most perfect, the principal singers were called before the curtain, the applause was enthusiastic; in short, the performance was attended with all possible success.

Before we attend the second representation of the revived "Guglielmo Tell" let us say a few words about the history of this truly historical work, for what opera marks more clearly a period in the life of a great composer, or a step forward in the composition of dramatic music? Rossini had agreed to write in six years three grand operas for the French Académie. According to his engagement with the Minister of the King's household (this was during the reign of Charles X.) he was to receive, in addition to his composer's fees, ten thousand francs a year until the expiration of the sixth year and the completion of the third opera. Three librettos were supplied to Rossini—No. 1 was "William Tell," No. 2, "Gustavus," No. 3, "The Duke of Alba." For some reason hitherto never explained (though several contradictory explanations have been put forward), the greatest dramatic composer Italy ever produced, after finishing the first of his trio of operas, and proving in the most triumphant manner that he was in the fullest possession of his genius, sent back librettos No. 2 and No. 3 to M. Scribe, and never afterwards wrote for the stage. On Jouy's uninteresting, ill-written libretto he had constructed a masterpiece. Is it not unaccountable, then, that he should afterwards have declined to set either of Eugene Scribe's, of which we know one to have been admirable, while the other was in all probability equally good?

Raphael and Mozart, the most tender of painters and of musicians, died at the age of thirty-six. Byron died when he was thirty-seven. A few painters, many poets, and a prodigious number of composers have perished young. Of these we can at once name Mozart, Cimarosa, Weber, Hérold, Bellini, and Mendelssohn, all of whom died at about the age Rossini had attained when he produced "William Tell." He was thirty-seven; and perhaps it occurred to him that, although in other important careers a man not yet forty is generally little more than a beginner, yet in music, which demands more imagination as its basis than any other of the arts, thirty-seven and thereabouts is an age at which the majority of great dramatic composers have been so exhausted that they have died. However this may have been, the "Gustave" declined by Rossini, &c., became the libretto of Aubert's "Gustave, ou le Bal Masqué." "Le Duc d'Albe" was undertaken by Donizetti, who, however, never finished his score.

The summer season was splendidly inaugurated at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday by a musical festival in which 3000 vocal and instrumental performers took part, under the direction of Mr. Costa—the solo vocalists being Mdlle. Titiens, Mdlle. Rudersdorff, Herr Formes, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Sims Reeves. Haydn's "Creation" was the work performed; the chorus consisting of the London division of the Handel Festival choir (including the chorus of the Sacred Harmonic Society, with selections from other metropolitan choral societies), the leading professional choristers, and deputations from the principal provincial choral societies, the cathedral choirs, and various Continental associations, accompanied by the magnificent Royal Italian Opera band. The amplest justice was done to Haydn's familiar work. The only absolute novelty on this occasion was the début of Mdlle. Titiens as a singer of oratorio in the English language. The lady was thoroughly successful.

Mr. Walter Macfarren, one of our best musicians, and an admirable pianist, has begun a series of concerts at the Hanover-square Rooms. At the first, which took place last Tuesday, he performed Beethoven's "Variations and finale alla fuga," constructed upon the same theme as the last movement of the Heroic Symphony, in reference to which Mr. G. A. Macfarren, in his valuable remarks on the programme, calls attention to "the exhaustless fertility of the composer's genius as shown in the fact that, extensively as is the theme developed in both instances, the two works have nothing in common beyond the principal melody and a bass to this, which latter is, in each case, employed as a canto fermo." Mr. Walter Macfarren also took the pianoforte part in a duet by Spohr (violin, Mr. Blagrove), in a duet by Mendelssohn (violinello, Signor Piatti), in a trio by Mozart (piano, violin, and violoncello), and played several pianoforte compositions of his own, including a mazurka and a saltarella, which were immensely applauded. The only vocalist was Mdlle. Laura Baxter, who sang with much success the favourite air from Handel's "Rinaldo" (now just a century and a half old, by-the-way), and Mr. Benedict's charming ballad, "By the sad sea waves." The next of Mr. Walter Macfarren's concerts is fixed for the 18th of May.

STATUE OF GENERAL HAVELOCK.

ALTOGETHER, Mr. Behnes's statue of Havelock, which has just been put in Trafalgar-square, has not proved a success; and, although we may readily admit the truth of the proverbial difficulty of pleasing everybody, and especially all the numerous host of artists, there may after all be some grounds for believing that the work is not characterised by those features which should properly belong to a public memorial. Not to echo all that has been said in its disfavour, we may remark that there is a certain want of both force and originality in the position of the figure, which is at first sight unpleasing, not perhaps from any want of proportion (except as regards the head, which certainly appears too large as you stand and look up), but from its apparent sameness, an unfortunate result of the disposition of the arms and hands, which look as though they had been "placed" for a photographic picture.

These objections are, of course, capable of one reply, which would at once render them valueless, and that would be a statement that the attitude was natural, because taken from the General himself while alive. The likeness is doubtless remarkably good, and that lofty though painful expression which rests upon the face is both fine and suggestive of the indomitable courage of the man during suffering.

We have but too few good public monuments, and it is a good sign when the people themselves subscribe to do honour to those who have gained for themselves an imperishable name. The statue, which is in bronze, was cast at the Pimlico Works.

TIGER-SHOOTING IN INDIA.

AMIDST the numerous manly sports that are available to the resident in India, nothing perhaps is more highly prized than that of going after a tiger, a sport which recommends itself to the taste of an Englishman more especially, as there is always a smack of danger in it which gives the additional relish. The sport is by no means so common as it used to be; that is, it is no longer so near our homes; for zealous youngsters, ever on the alert for game, have wellnigh cleared the copses of such fierce animals; and where canals of irrigation have been constructed and cultivation has increased, so have the facilities of sport diminished; and, though tigers are abundant in certain districts, yet plans have to be arranged, parties formed, and a shooting party got together, so as to make the sport good by having the jungles well beaten for a good "battue." Occasionally, in the vicinity of the sporting districts, which principally extend along the lower range of the Himalayas, where there are dense forests, a stray tiger will venture forth and sally miles away, carrying devastation into far-off villages, clearing them of bullocks and terrifying the villagers. This becomes glad intelligence indeed in the ears of the sporting Englishman, who forthwith gets the loan of some elephants, and, if possible, accompanied by a few more equally sporting-inclined companions, make for the scene of the tiger's exploits. At times elephants are not to be procured; and there are not wanting numbers of Europeans who would as soon go on foot or mounted on horseback, trusting to their nerves and to their unerring rifles; but this is really dangerous sport, and is scarcely ever unattended with disaster, either to the principals or to some of the beaters; and many a valuable life has been thus recklessly thrown away. The hair-breadth 'scapes, and the wonderful instances of preservation arising from signal presence of mind in those who have come to grief, are sung and said enough to fill volumes; and to have shared the common dangers, and had a narrow escape when shooting tigers on foot, may be the pleasurable attraction which tempts the young blood of old England to venture on such risks.

The most pleasurable method of enjoying the sport is when one has the opportunity of joining one's shooting establishment to



STATUE OF GENERAL HAVELOCK IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.
(BEHNES, SCULPTOR.)

that of some Rajah or Nawab, who, devoted to the sport, sets apart so many months of each year for its especial enjoyment, and who from much experience, and with an army of practised beaters, is able to clear the jungles thoroughly, so that the sport will unquestionably be good. By joining his camp an Englishman will always obtain a hearty welcome, for in nothing else but in the matter of "sporting" is there anything in common between the European and the native mind—ideas, tastes

fancies, amusements, pursuits, are diametrically opposed in the two different characters; for instance, while a European finds companionship in books, in science, and in art, the native can only find pleasure in his hookah-smoking and beetul-chewing, and in other purely animal gratifications. In sporting alone, on the subject of guns, tigers, and rifles, is there any community of feeling; and so when a rajah does take to the field he is only too glad to welcome Europeans to join in the sport.

The best season is when the weather is hottest, though, in consequence of the terrific heat, the latter part of the cold weather—viz., the months of February, March, and April—is generally selected; but it must not be supposed that in these grand shooting expeditions tigers alone are the game sought for. On the contrary, it would surprise an Englishman to see the result of one day's bag. Bears, leopards, panthers, hyenas, deer of every size and kind, besides the smaller game, and, in addition to birds, pheasants, plover, snipe, partridge, quail; then hares, rabbits, and hundreds of animals unknown by name to Englishmen; all combine to swell the grand bag which is daily exhibited before the tent of the Rajah at the close of the day's proceedings.

Before daybreak the cavalcade is formed, the camp if practicable being pitched in some choice locality, so that excursions can be made from it in every direction without the necessity of a general move; but after a few days, owing to the accumulation of so much tarrag and bobtail, a change of ground is very desirable, and as the work is effected by the host of retainers with such facility, a new ground each day, except Sunday, is all the better. The elephants are disposed in reference to their pluck in facing the game. Tigers, as a rule, are cowardly brutes, and will escape rather than show fight whenever they can do so effectively; but on these occasions the noblest animals are amongst those driven, and, as they are often in a "considerable fix," they do not hesitate to fly upon the elephant, springing on the head, if possible, to tear him down; and very few elephants can stand this—many, indeed, anticipating such a catastrophe from the roaring of the animal and the mad way in which he lashes his sides, do not leave it optional with him, but immediately revolve and decamp; and then it is that there is the danger to the sportsman, for the terrified elephant tears wildly under boughs of trees, and the chances are the howdah or seat is torn off, and he, thrown to the ground, is at the mercy of the tiger till relieved by the coming up of more manageable ones, whose riders pour in their volleys. A tiger will thus frequently give chase, and, as in the illustration, one may be seen which on his first spring to the rear has cleared the howdah of the native who, by-the-way, may have dropped more terrified than hurt. Taking a fresh grip, the tiger would bound off with the sportsman but for that battery of guns and the firmness of the man who handles them. A couple of barrels may lodge their contents in the tiger's head, and give him his quietus. But they are only the crack shots who, under such circumstances, with the rough motion of the elephant and the probability that he will smash under a bough, can be tolerably sure of their aim; and a second gun has to be had recourse to, and probably a volley from some contiguous howdah, before the unpleasant visitor is made to quit his hold and resign his life. The best elephant becomes uneasy under such circumstances, and, though those unaccustomed or naturally timorous may make a clean bolt of it, yet the pluckiest become anything but a quiet stage from which to take a deliberate aim; so that the quantum of risk and danger so desirable to give relish to the sport is in this way obtained; and that there is great excitement in it none can deny who have ever had a good day of it.

The tigers when shot are lashed upon the backs of pad elephants, and the skin becomes the property of him whose bullet did the final work. Each elephant is driven by a native called a "mahout," who sits, astride his neck and guides him with an iron probe. Each



TIGER-HUNTING IN INDIA.—FROM A SKETCH BY THE LATE CAPTAIN G.



LONDON SKETCHES, NO. 6.—BIRD FAIR, GREAT ST. ANDREW'S STREET, SEVEN DIALS.

howdah might carry two in front, but, being rather cramped, it is seldom occupied by more than one, except when sportsmen are numerous and elephants limited. In the small back seat sits the native, who holds the chattah, or umbrella, helps to load, supplies brandy and soda-water, &c., and makes himself generally useful.

SAYNT GYLES OF THE LEPEERS.

THE London-bred man, escorting his cousin from Shropshire through the metropolis, pauses in the middle of handsome New Oxford-street or Endell-street, the broad and long, and observes, as he points out the six inches of glittering watchchain and the bunch of seals pendent from his friend's fob, "Ah, John! you wouldn't have found it so easy to step along here with that dangling before people's eyes twenty years ago. We are in Saint Giles's, John; on the very ground where one time o' day existed nothing but thieves' dens and beggars' haunts, and where a man with a pound in his purse would no more dare venture after dark than he would, unattended, perambulate the depths of an Indian tiger jungle. It's all over now, however. St. Giles is knocked on the head, and dead and buried, and, instead, we have the broad and handsome thoroughfares you see before you."

Innocent relative of the Shropshire man! St. Giles is still alive, dwindled by old age certainly, but still in the flesh, kicking up his

heels and crowing lustily. Alive is Saint Giles as when the wife of Henry I., the good Queen Maud, pitying the many lepers that were shunned and hounded through her husband's dominions, caused to be built, "nigh Bleman's ditch, to the west of London," a sanctuary for the accommodation and maintenance of forty of the stricken wretches, dedicating the building to "the Athenian Saint Giles." Where the parish church now stands then stood the pesthouse, isolated and all alone, on forest land, bleak and boggy, as is evident from the prevalence of ditches and brooks or "bournes"—Old-bourne (the modern Holborn), Woe-bourne, West-bourne, Tye-bourne, &c., &c.

Whatever obligation we may lie under to saints as a community, we certainly have small cause to be grateful particularly to Saint Giles. More than two thirds of a thousand years has he sojourned amongst us, and ever has the parish under his special control been a blot and a plague-spot on the face of the city. When, in 1413, the gallows standing at "the elms in Smithfield" was thought too ugly an object to exist so near the city, it was taken up and transplanted at the north corner of St. Giles's Hospital wall, between the termination of the High-street and what was then Hog-lane, and is now Crown-street. At that period originated the "St. Giles's bowl." A bowl of ale was provided by the master of the Leper Hospital, and the man about to be hanged halted at the great gate and quaffed his last refreshment. When the gallows was removed to Tyburn the presentation of the bowl was not discontinued—it was upheld as

long as the Leper Hospital stood, which was till 1547, and then a neighbouring innkeeper, that so good a custom might not become extinct, undertook to have ready the ale-bowl whenever the hangman's cart might halt at his door. It was on this gallows of St. Giles of the Lepers Lord Cobham was hanged.

To St. Giles's parish attaches the melancholy celebrity of originating the Great Plague of 1665, two Frenchmen residing at the upper end of Drury-lane first dying of it. Another plague likewise dates from this ill-favoured locality—viz., the plague of tollgates. In 1346 King Edward III. granted a commission to the master of the Leper Hospital and to John de Holborne, empowering them to levy tolls at the rate of a penny in the pound on their value on all cattle, and the merchandise drawn by the same, to defray the expense of keeping the roads in proper repair. It would seem, however, that the revenue derived from this source was insufficient for the purpose, for so long as two hundred years afterwards Stow writes—"High Oldburn, leading from the bars towards St. Giles's, is very full of pits and sloughs, and perilous and noisome to all that repair and pass that way, as well on foot as on horseback."

The Seven Dials—the core of the evil apple that has been so repeatedly pared—remains still intact. It was a villanous place long before the "Dials" were erected, and was known as "Cock and Pye Field's," and as the constant resort of all sorts of blackguardism



FASHIONS FOR MAY.

THE GUARDS' MEMORIAL.

OUR monuments are unfortunate. In the vacant space between the Athenaeum and the United Service Clubs, in Waterloo-place, stands the "Guards' Memorial," and it may be doubted whether anything more incongruous in design can be discovered in the metropolitan streets. The principal figure—if the figure of "Honour" which surmounts the pedestal may be called the principal when the others consist of three massy Guards in great coats and bearskins—although it may be well proportioned, stands in an attitude at once ungraceful and dubious, while the wreaths which adorn the hands and wrists are held out as though they were a species of circular dumb-bell of considerable weight, and requiring some muscular exertion to extend at the requisite angle. The great mistake appears to be that this figure of Honour should not be predominant, and that its comparative insignificance should be but faintly relieved by ample drapery and an awkward attitude. It may well be doubted whether the entire absence of the three Guards beneath would not have been an improvement, unless, indeed, Honour had been personified by a figure possessing the dignity which colossal proportions alone could give in any case like the present. It would seem obvious that, if the leading idea of the work be that of Honour stretching forth the wreath to the conquerors, the conception of the quality realised in a female figure should be grandeur even rather than grace; and when we lack the one without having attained an intimation of the other the execution must be looked upon as a failure, whatever may have been the original conception.

It is painfully evident, too, that the whole monument is only intended to be seen directly from the front—a fatal mistake in street sculpture, and one which utterly disfigures one thoroughfare for the sake of another.

With respect to the pedestal, it is like nothing else in the world, and the palpable ill-combination of sculpture and building (not architecture) has an effect absolutely painful. The figures of the Guards are in themselves good; and, indeed, had the memorial consisted only of them placed on an appropriate pedestal, the whole work would have been more striking. On the two side fronts alone are inscribed the words "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sebastopol"; while at the back the upper block of the granite pedestal is ornamented with a pyramidal pile of cannon, beneath which we read—

To the memory of 2162 officers and men of the Brigade of Guards who fell during the war in Russia, 1854, 1855, 1856.

PURCHASERS of the MAP of NORTH AMERICA issued with this Paper can have their copies exchanged by the Publisher for copies handsomely coloured, showing the Free and Slave States, mounted on canvas with rollers and varnished, for 1s. 6d. each copy, which can be sent through the post to any part of the United Kingdom for four additional stamps. May be had also on canvas to fold in a book, same price.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1861.

PARTIES.

THE banquets given with indiscriminate magnificence by the Lord Mayor to the heads of our great political parties are extremely useful, inasmuch as these occasions afford the statesman an opportunity, sufficiently important, of delivering himself more freely on certain subjects than he could possibly do in Parliament. Whatever a Minister may say in Guildhall is as significant as if it had been uttered from the Treasury bench; but there is a want of officiality about it in the former case which is very convenient; and therefore, whenever a political State banquet is held in the City, we usually hear some especially frank discourse on foreign affairs. Lord Derby, departing in this latter particular from the rule, seized the occasion presented by the gathering in Guildhall on Wednesday night to discuss the position of his party in particular, and of parties in general. The time was opportune, for all parties were excited by the imminent prospect of a Ministerial defeat; and the speech was generous, inasmuch as Lord Derby went before the event to declare that, so far from desiring the downfall of the present Government, he wished to maintain it. Of course the Radical press-writers do not believe the Earl sincere, though he went on to furnish arguments in favour of his resolution which they will only be too glad to use. He said, truly, that a succession of weak Governments inconveniences the Sovereign, and creates entanglement in our foreign and home affairs alike. He confessed, with a degree of honesty and modesty which we recommend to another party the opposite of Conservative, that he did not see how he could form a strong Government "for we know by past experience that if, by any over-impatience, we were to do that which it is little to say that any week we might have an opportunity of doing—namely, to compel the resignation of the present Government—we know well that the union of the Conservative party in office would lead again to those renewed combinations among the disorganised Liberal party which would again cause another change, and again disturb the social and political arrangements of the country."

Now, when we remember that the Opposition is numerically equal to the Governmental party (or nearly so), and that recent elections have shown in the most practical manner that Conservatism is gaining ground in the country, it is impossible to deny that Lord Derby is acting on high patriotic principles. While we say so, we are perfectly conscious that that opponent of everything and everybody out of his political "Little Bethel," the Radical, sneers at the Earl as a hypocrite, and at those who believe in his declaration as dupes; but, luckily, sneers cannot invalidate the probity of one whom the Liberal *Times* called—when it supposed him dead—"the most high-minded gentleman in Europe."

When Lord Derby, pursuing a theme very interesting just now, expressed his concern that the most eminent members of the present Government, "moved by a misguided fidelity to a name, and overlooking entirely the difference of principle which those names cover," have allied themselves with men from whose views they wholly dissent, he exposed a blot which is not likely to diminish during the existence of the present Government. It may suit the Radicals, finding the country grow more and more indifferent to their unconsidered rant, to ally themselves with Whigs in office but whether the union

is conducive to good government is a question which the country seems to have settled, though the Whigs only begin to ponder it. The history of the Session up to the present moment ought to convince Lord Palmerston that his Manchester allies are of little use to him, considering that it is *their* bills which have brought on him constant defeat, while on more than one occasion they have shown themselves ready to turn and rend him. The fact is as Lord Derby stated it—the strength of the Government is composed of two parties, which by a bond of unnatural alliance support each other in public, while in private they speak of each other with hatred and contempt. The bond which unites them is the word "Liberal," nothing more. Does any man suppose that more sympathy—moral, intellectual or political—exists between Lord Palmerston and Mr. Bright than between the Premier and Lord Derby? Couple Lord Stanley and Mr. Gladstone, and the union is intelligible; but Mr. Gladstone working hand in hand with the modern demagogue, and pleased with *his* applause, confuses all the ideas we have derived from his sense, his scholarship, and his political history. No; there can be no doubt that the chiefs of the present Government and the chiefs of the Conservative party infinitely more accord in sentiment and opinion (did Palmerston dare acknowledge it as Derby has done) than any two parties in the State. The advance of political intelligence amongst the masses has Liberalised the one party, the insolence of a demagoguism, gab-gifted, has Conservativeised the other. They are only hostile because one of them wants frankness and is timid. But the sense of the country is fast settling all that. Mistaking public opinion, Lord Palmerston allied himself with the Manchester school of politicians. By popular opinion he will be convinced of his error, and discover, perhaps, how much more Conservative than Radical he is in his heart.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY has removed from Buckingham Palace to White Lodge, Richmond Park, the residence of the Prince of Wales.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS has appointed commissioners to preside over the arrangements of the Belgian artists and manufacturers who intend to take part in the London Exhibition of 1862.

THE GRAND DUKE OF BADEN has announced to the Germanic Diet that the fortifications it required him to make at the bridge over the Rhine at Kehl are completed, and that communication with the opposite bank can be cut off at any moment.

THE GREAT EASTERN left Milford Haven on Wednesday for New York. The passengers were numerous. Last week the vessel was seized for debt; but that affair seems to have been arranged.

THE GOVERNMENT intends to permit the Royal Agricultural Society to exhibit animals in one of the London parks next year. The site has not been fixed.

THE MEMBER OF THE ROTHSCHILD FAMILY whose name stands among those of the Councillors of the Empire of Austria for life is Baron Anselme de Rothschild.

"FOUR NEW FORTS," says a letter from Venice, "are about to be built in the neighbourhood of Verona. The sites have been already traced out, and workmen have commenced to clear away the ground."

THE OFFICE OF RESIDENT ENGRAVER to HER MAJESTY'S Mint has become vacant by the superannuation of Mr. James Wynn. The salary has not hitherto been large, but no doubt there are many who aspire to the honour of engraving dies for the British coinage.

A PRIVATE MEETING of the leading members of the Bar and Benchers of the Inner Temple, was held in the Library-room, Westminster Hall, to take into consideration the present position of Mr. Edwin James, and his relation to the Bar. The result was not allowed to transpire.

KING FRANCIS II., notwithstanding the repeated invitations he has received from Napoleon III. to take up his residence in France, is determined to await in Italy the course of events, and will not go either to Munich, Vienna, or Madrid. During the summer he will remain at a villa in the environs of Rome.

THE EMPEROR OF MOROCCO has sent the King of Portugal a present of four beautiful Arabian horses. The animals were delivered to the Portuguese Consul in Tangiers by Muley El Abbas, Caliph, and brother of the Emperor, the Moorish ceremonial observed on such occasions being fully carried out.

INTERDICTED and put down at Bordeaux, the opera of "Charles VI." has broken out with aggravated symptoms at Marseilles, and a renewal of compressive measures has been called for.

CHERBOURG is ordered to be placed in a state of defence; but no importance is to be attached to the circumstance, we are told, as the place stands in need of many repairs.

THE DUKE OF COBURG-GOTHA has forbidden his officers to take any part in the subscription now afoot for presenting King Francis II. with a shield of honour.

THE TREATY BETWEEN SWITZERLAND AND ITALY for carrying a railway over the Lukmanier has been concluded.

THE ELECTIONS TO THE CORTES OF PORTUGAL have resulted in the election of sixty-four Ministerial and sixteen Opposition candidates.

CAPTAIN RICHARD FRANCIS BURTON has been appointed to be her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, and in the territories on the Western Coast of Africa comprised within the Bight of Biafra, and lying between Cape Formosa and Cape St. John.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY has conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon the Rev. Timothy Gibson, who was a few weeks since nominated by the Bishop of London to the rectory of Bethnal-green, of which parish he had been for a long series of years Curate in sole charge. Dr. Gibson possessed no academic degree.

THE DISTRIBUTION of prizes and certificates of merit, in connection with the department of the evening classes at King's College, took place on Monday evening in the large hall of the college. The Bishop of London presided.

THE BRADFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, at their meeting on Monday, adopted a petition in favour of the repeal of the paper duty. The basis of the petition is that the impost is vexatious and inconvenient in operation, and injurious to the interests of commerce.

LORD MONTAGUE formally entered a protest upon the journals of the House of Lords against the third reading of the Post Office Savings Banks Bill.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT have agreed to pay the Baptist Missionary Society the sum of £1500 as compensation for the loss of property which it sustained by its expulsion from Fernando Po.

CAVALRY STABLING of a more permanent character than that at present existing in the camp at Aldershot is ordered to be erected, at the estimated cost of £40,000.

H.M.S. PRINCESS ROYAL has been found to be so defective (after large sums of money have been spent on her) that the Lords of the Admiralty have been compelled to order the Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Fleet to shift his flag from her to the *Revenge*, 91 guns.

THE HON. MRS. (LONGWORTH) YELVERTON arrived in Manchester last week to collect evidence required in the matters now pending in the Scotch and Irish courts.

MR. RICHARD HODGSON, the newly-elected member for Tynemouth, appears to have been severely hurt by the outrageous behaviour of the constituents on the day of the election. He generously refused to prosecute the men who were taken into custody for the election row.

THE THEATRE DES NOUVEAUTES of Brussels was entirely destroyed by fire on the night of the 24th ult. The conflagration broke out about half-past eleven o'clock, scarcely an hour after the performances had concluded.

THE SCANDALOUS CHRONICLE of Rome is much occupied just now with an awful exposé in the nunnery of St. Ambrogio, in which two priests are accused of having acted an over-zealous part.

THE TREATY between Italy and Switzerland for the carrying of a railway over the Lukmanier has been concluded.

THE FINAL CHOICE OF THE FRENCH ACADEMY for the laureate to receive the Emperor's prize of 20,000*fr.* is said to have fallen upon M. Jules Simon.

MR. JOHN BRUCE has been appointed by the Society of Antiquaries to act as a trustee of the Soane Museum, in place of the late Lord Aberdeen.

THE APPEAL of Mrs. Patterson and of Mr. Jerome Bonaparte Patterson against the decision of the Civil Tribunal rejecting their action against Prince Napoleon was on Saturday called pro forma before the Imperial Court, and ordered to be pleaded on a future day.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the subscribers for the distribution of the Art Union prizes took place on Tuesday at the Adelphi Theatre. The chair was occupied by Henry Thomas Hope, Esq.

THE SWISS GOVERNMENT has just seized a great number of proclamations on the subject of annexing the canton of Ticino to the kingdom of Italy.

THE HOLDING OF THE MAY MEETINGS has begun, several of these important demonstrations now taking place every day.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN PRUSSIA keeps every year two fast and thanksgiving days, one in the spring and the other in the autumn. That for the former season took place at Berlin on the 23rd ult. All public amusements were interdicted, the Bourse and Government offices closed, and none of the journals appeared.

A FEW DAYS SINCE tenders were received for the supply of forty locomotives for the Russian railways. There were numerous offers from English and French manufacturers; but the contract, it is said, is given to Cockerill and Co., of Liège, who presented the lowest tender—63,000 francs the engine.

THE NEW PARISIAN JOURNAL, *Le Temps*, has appeared. One of the most experienced journalists of France, M. Neffizer, compiles the political news of the day.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

WHILE I write the Government and the Opposition are hard at work whipping up their friends, for the division on the paper duty. The Conservative chiefs have had a difficult game to play for, though almost the entire party is opposed to the Budget, there is a general indisposition to disturb the Government. The chiefs therefore declare that a defeat of the Government will not necessarily disturb, or at all events not overthrow, it. The most that can come of it will be the elimination of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Milner Gibson. This policy was easily seen in the speeches both of Mr. Horsman and Mr. Disraeli. Mr. Horsman bent all his powers to the separation of the responsibility of the Government from that of the Chancellor; whilst Mr. Disraeli flattered Lord Palmerston, broadly hinted that there was no wish to force him to resign, and, in short, plainly intimated that it was not the destruction of Government that is aimed at, but the elimination of the Chancellor. Whether Lord Palmerston will give any encouragement to this policy remains to be seen. When he arose on Monday night it was confidently expected that he would announce his intention to stand or fall by the Budget; but he sat down and made no sign. Nor did he respond to Mr. Coningham's request that he would inform the House whether he would consider the motion of Mr. Horsfall as a vote of want of confidence. This looks as if he means to treat the matter as he did last year—quietly eat his leek if it be forced upon him, and do nothing. But in that case what will the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the President of the Board of Trade do?

DISAFFECTION IN THE IONIAN ISLANDS.—The *Nord* contains a despatch stating that on the evening of the 24th ult. a conflict broke out between the English garrison and the people of Corfu. Twelve soldiers and eight inhabitants were wounded. The *Indépendance Belge* and the Paris papers represent the affair as having occurred at Zante.

ARREST OF ALBERTO MARIO.—The Turin newspapers report the arrest of Signor Alberto Mario at Ferrara, and the protest of his wife, M^{me}. Mario, formerly Miss Jessie White. The reasons of this incident are alleged to be the following:—A certain number of political exiles from the Venetian provinces had assembled at Ferrara, and the Government had positive information that some of these refugees, lured on by the Austrian authorities, and anxious to provoke an outbreak of hostilities at any price, were plotting an expedition across the Po; a resolution was therefore taken to remove from that frontier city all the emigrants established there. Signor Mario, who, as a Venetian exile, had received notice to quit, insisted on his right to reside in any part of the Italian kingdom he preferred, and protested he would not move from the spot unless he was driven away by the carabinieri or gendarmes, whereupon the authorities ordered him to be arrested.

LOST AND FOUND.—On Saturday afternoon one of the clerks in the service of Messrs. Ashurst, the solicitors of the Old Jewry, went to Messrs. Smith and Payne's bank to procure change for a cheque for £300, which he received all in notes, with the exception of five sovereigns. When he arrived in the Old Jewry he found the envelope containing the notes had vanished. The loss was advertised, and on Monday morning the police were informed that the money was in the hands of Mr. Terry, the manager of the Unity Bank. It turned out that a lad in the service of a firm in Bucklersbury picked up the envelope with its contents. He immediately went to his master and informed him of the circumstance, and handed him the money. His employer, commending him for his honesty, proceeded to the Unity Bank, and handed the money over to Mr. Terry. That gentleman, whose attention in the course of his business had been attracted by the advertisement, sent notice to Mr. Ashurst of what had occurred, and so the money was recovered. The reward of £10 which had been offered for its recovery was given to the boy.

THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—Numerous communications have been received with regard to an inquiry recently raised concerning the affairs of the Submarine Telegraph Company. The shareholders have now enough before them to render a rigid inquiry indispensable, and there can be no question that the directors must themselves insist upon that step as the only means by which they can be set right in the eyes of the public. The facts stand simply thus:—A letter has been produced, written by one of the directors of the company, containing most extraordinary charges of fraud and extortion against a colleague on the board. Are these charges true, and were the board generally acquainted with the fact of their having been made? If they are true, then the person charged must be unfit for his seat in the direction; if they are false, the inventor of them must be unfit for his seat; and, if the board at large had been acquainted with the affair, they must also be under a serious responsibility to their constituents if they have failed to make full inquiry into it.—*The Times' City Article.*

THE UNITED STATES' ARMY.—The present strength of the army is 18,122 men. It consists of 19 regiments—10 regiments of infantry, averaging 10 companies of 70 men each; 4 of artillery, averaging 12 companies of about 50 men each; 1 of mounted rifles, 2 of cavalry, and 2 of dragoons, each of the latter numbering 10 companies of about 60 men, or about 195 companies in all. Of these, notwithstanding the excitement created by the concentration of about half a regiment at the national capital, over 100 companies are stationed in the distant regions of Key West, Kansas, Nebraska, Utah, Texas, New Mexico, California, Oregon, and other places. Regiments serving on those stations have 74 men to a company, instead of 64; so that were the entire army located in them it would consist of 17,549 "total enlisted," and 1886 aggregate. It is impossible to estimate accurately the number of officers now in the service, as no official list, deducting the resignations, has been published. There have been, however, some 1200 commissions gazetted, and there must be over 1000 epauletted gentlemen now on the roll. Each regiment has a certain number of officers allotted to it, which varies according to circumstances. The dragoons, for instance, of whom we have two regiments, numbering each about 600 men, have 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 2 majors, 10 captains, 11 first lieutenants, (600 men), 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 2 majors, 10 captains, and 22 lieutenants—68 in all; the mounted rifle regiment, the same number of men and general staff, and 22 lieutenants—37 in all; the four regiments of artillery (each about 700 men), 4 general officers, 12 captains, and 38 lieutenants—216 in all; the ten regiments of infantry (each 700 men), 4 general officers, 10 captains, and 20 lieutenants; and so on.—*New York Times.*

SINGULAR FRAUD.—The authorities of the Bank of France recently discovered that many of the Napoleons they received had been fraudulently reduced in value by scooping out part of the inside, and filling up the hollow with lead or brass. The perpetrators of this fraud first sawed off the head-side of the piece, then hollowed out the inside, till only a mere pellicle of gold remained, and afterwards filled up the interior as stated. They then put on the head again, and so cleverly as to leave scarcely any mark on the edge.

A STRANGE DREAM.—There was a curious circumstance connected with the case of John Ham, burnt to death at Dedham, by his clothes catching fire from his pipe. At the inquest a gentleman, residing at Dedham, stated to the coroner that many years ago he had a dream of Ham's death by an event similar to that which has actually occurred; and that, knowing the man, he had felt it his duty to relate it to him, and caution him as to his mode of life, which he had frequently done; and that he only recently again reminded him of his dream.—*Essex Herald.*

THE EARL OF DERBY AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

On Wednesday evening the Earl of Derby, with other distinguished members of the Conservative party, was entertained by the Lord Mayor at one of the most magnificent entertainments ever given at the Mansion House. The company was as numerous and important as the banquet was splendid: the speeches were significant, too. Lord Derby said:—

Never during the period I have been connected with the Conservative party have I felt greater pride than I do at the present moment. Never, I believe, since the moment of their unfortunate disruption, in 1846, have they at any time stood so high in the opinion of the country as they do at the present moment. What some persons call the cold shade of Opposition has been dissipated by their zeal and energy. Every fresh election bears testimony to the increasing hold their opinions and principles have on the country. Not that I would wish to be understood as saying that the feeling of the country is reactionary, but I believe that the country is becoming awake to the conviction that the greatest promises are not always the greatest performers; that the great cause of social advancement, of legal improvement, that much boasted shibboleth of civil and religious liberty, are at the least as safe in the hands of the Conservatives as in the hands of the Liberal party, and that the great institutions of the country—the Church, the Peerage, and the Monarchy—may be a trifle safer. It is not not, however, of the growing strength and power of the Conservative party that I feel chiefly proud; it is of the position which they occupy at this moment, and the like of which, I believe, never was occupied by any party—and certainly by no party strong enough in itself to overbalance any one of the combined parties in the State opposed to them. It is little—though that is indeed a height to which some political parties are unable to attain—it is little to abstain from vexatious opposition to a Government in which you place no confidence; but it is no slight thing, sacrifice all their personal feelings, all feelings of private or party interest, for the purpose of coming down day after day, not to offer any active opposition, but to give a cordial and zealous support to the Ministers of the Crown, although the conduct of those Ministers be not such as to inspire that confidence. And yet this is the course which day after day we have the pride to see the Conservative party pursue. My Lord, it is well known that if the Conservative party were to cease the vigilance of their attendance in Parliament for the protection of her Majesty's Government, the noble Viscount at the head of the Government would very shortly sustain the fate of Acton, and be torn to pieces by his own dogs. We know that the jarring elements of which the Liberal party—God save the mark!—is now composed are kept together solely and entirely by their apprehension and fear of the united power of the great Conservative party who oppose them; and, if for one single moment they were to relax our vigilance, we know that their disorders would break out into open rebellion, and that the Queen's Government could not be sustained during the Session. Day after day, and week after week, the Conservative members of the House of Commons are going down to that House for the purpose of assisting her Majesty's Government in their weak and half-hearted opposition to measures of which they know the danger, and supporting and assisting them against their own allies in the great Liberal party.

The Earl then explained why his party supported its opponents:—

Because we are firmly convinced that it is for the advantage of the country, whose interests are, and I trust always will be, the prime object of our Conservative attachment, that there should not be constant changes of Government. We desire to see a strong Government. I fear we have not one at present, and I must confess honestly I do not see the mode of forming a strong Government; but that which is most to the prejudice of the country is a succession of weak Governments, and a perpetual change creating embarrassment and inconvenience—embarrassment to the Sovereign, embarrassment in all our foreign and diplomatic relations, embarrassment and want of steadiness in carrying on the domestic policy of the country. And we know by past experience that if, by any hasty move or any impatience, we were to do what it is little to say any week or fortnight we have the means of doing—compelling the resignation of the present Government—the union of the Conservative party in office would lead again to those renewed combinations of the advanced sections of the Liberal party which might again cause another change—disturbance in the social and political relations of the country.

As to the position of parties, Lord Derby said:—

I look with deep regret and concern on the position of the remnants of that great Whig party that was honoured by the names of Grey, and Brougham, and Mackintosh, and to which I deemed it an honour to belong. I see with great regret and concern men of distinguished character, of talent, and of eminence, perhaps from an honourable but, I think, misguided fidelity to names, overlooking entirely the difference of principle their names conceal and cover, allying themselves with men from whose principles and politics they wholly dissent, and dragged into a reluctant support of measures and of men of which and of whom in private they would not hesitate to speak in the most depreciating terms, and who, in return, I am bound to say, reciprocate without stint or hesitation that particular amount of personal affection and friendship which is known to subsist between the extremes of the great Liberal party. I say I regret the position of honourable and distinguished members of the Whig party, between whom and the great Conservative party at the present time there is really little or no difference of principle, if they were allowed to act on their own opinions. I regret I must say that a gentleman—a man adorned with every qualification which can charm or delight an audience, a man of the highest powers of oratory, the representative still of one of the most distinguished and Conservative constituencies in the kingdom—is lending himself, his great abilities, his great powers, his seductive eloquence, and making himself the Corymbus and mouthpiece of that party whose politics and opinions are the most repugnant to all the sound lovers of their country.

With regard to foreign politics, the Earl said there was no real difference in opinion amongst Englishmen: we all sympathise with those countries who are striving for freedom, but this ought not to be obtained by the intrigues of foreign Powers. Meanwhile, the position of Europe is such that, at whatever sacrifice, we must maintain our Army and Navy at their fullest efficiency:—

But I do think that we have a right to expect that the burden of taxation shall be placed, not, as appears to be the favourite system of finance in the present day, so as to press with all its concentrated weight first on the accumulated and realised produce of successful industry—than which I can conceive no principle more discouraging or dangerous in a great commercial country—and next, on a few articles of foreign import, which enter as necessities of life into the primary and constant consumption of every family, the humblest in the kingdom. To concentrate on these objects, upon realised property and the prime necessities of life, the whole burden of the taxation of the country is an enormous and imprudent waste of the resources of the country. . . . I have a very strong opinion myself that one portion at least of the mode in which the Government propose to deal with their surplus is not the mode which, financially or politically, is most desirable; and I believe, if the country were polled from one end to the other, it would almost reconcile me to that favourite nostrum, that skulking hole of political cowardice, the vote by ballot, if I could put before the country for their deliberate decision the question whether they would give for the advantage of the country £1,250,000 for the abolition of the duty on paper, or £1,250,000 on the remission of the duty on tea.

Mr. Disraeli also made a speech, in which he said:—

The House of Commons has now been sitting for three months, and during that period there has been a series of measures introduced by a very powerful party, devised with great ability, combined with great subtlety and talent, yet all having one object—an assault upon the institutions of this country—upon all our institutions in Church and State, and an attempt to change the disposition and distribution of political power in England. These measures have not commanded out of doors that attention which they have fortunately commanded within the walls of the House of Commons. For all these measures in full Houses, and after patient discussion, have been signally and continuously defeated by the high discipline and never-failing spirit of the Constitutional party in Parliament. And these important Parliamentary transactions have been characterised by one remarkable trait. Though none of these measures, systematically assailing the Constitution in Church and State, systematically attempting to change the distribution of political power in England have been brought forward by the Government, every one of those measures have been supported by the Government, and in a manner the most peculiar and the most unusual. Sometimes the Government have voted for these measures and spoken against them, sometimes they have spoken for them and voted against them. This is a process that has been in proceeding for several months, and I believe this day has witnessed the defeat of the last of these measures.

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN SPAIN.

On Tuesday evening a public meeting was held in St. James's Hall for the purpose of giving expression to the public opinion of the metropolis on the subject of religious persecution in Spain, and of sympathising with the victims of that persecution. The hall was completely filled. On the platform were the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P.; Sir R. Peel, M.P.; Mr. E. Ball, M.P.; Mr. Baines, M.P.; the Bishop of Ripon; Mr. Hadfield, M.P.; Dr. Dr. Leitch, Campbell, &c. The Earl of Shaftesbury was in the chair.

The Earl of Shaftesbury, in opening the proceedings, said:—

The present was no proselytising enterprise—no Protestant combination. They were simply met to assert on behalf of others those principles that had been found of such inestimable benefit to the people of this country—to assert that man was responsible for his religious opinions to God alone, and that no human being had a right to pry into that which passed in another's heart—that no human being had a right to say whether or not another should have access to the Word of God. They were told that the men now suffering persecution in Spain were sowers of sedition, mischievous politicians seeking to overturn society. That was the old, unfounded accusation. It was as old as the time of the Apostles, and as modern as the persecutions in Spain. But he hoped this country would interfere effectually on behalf of these persecuted men.

Sir Robert Peel was then called to read the first resolution, which he did, as follows:—

That this meeting prays that her Majesty will be graciously pleased to take such steps as her Majesty may deem most fitting for bringing under the notice of the Queen of Spain the strong feeling prevailing among a large number of her Majesty's subjects in consequence of the measures now actively pursued in Spain against those who profess principles held by her Majesty, in common with many millions of her Majesty's subjects.

In that great assembly of free Englishmen (continued Sir Robert) every one would come forward to uphold the cause of men suffering not for any political opinions, or for any violation of the laws of God, but simply for their belief in the Scriptures, for having in their possession copies of those Scriptures, and reading them in company with others. He was strengthened in saying this by the recollection that the fact of these persecutions had excited in this country a general feeling of horror and amazement. He had himself presented to Parliament petitions from all the more important towns and cities in the kingdom on this subject. The feeling was not confined to Protestant Churchmen only, but was shared in by Protestant Dissenters, and also by many estimable Roman Catholics, who one and all regarded those proceedings in Spain with horror. This question had its exact parallel in that of the Madiai of Tuscany, who, on the same grounds, and for the same proceedings, were subjected to imprisonment. In this case three English Ministers interposed, Lord Malmesbury, Lord J. Russell, and Lord Palmerston, who on all such occasions were ever prompt in expressing the feelings of the country. All those Ministers urged the Government of Tuscany in favour of the persecuted Madiai, and on similar grounds they were now entitled to ask the Government to interest themselves with the Government of Spain in behalf of the people now undergoing persecution in that country. He read in a gazette published at Madrid on the 17th of this month that there had just been discovered at Malaga an association of Protestants formed for the promulgation of their faith, and that nine persons connected with it had been arrested. Let us grant to a country civil and religious liberty and we granted it everything. When a man was deprived of his inheritance, despoiled of his attributes, he would cease to exercise the functions with which God had endowed him. He was desirous to say, in the name of every one on that platform, that they were not desirous of saying one word disrespectful to the Roman Catholic religion. It was the duty of those who claimed liberty of thought for themselves to respect the religious opinions of others. But, having said that, he thought he was justified in saying that he had no wish to bring any accusation against the Government of Spain. Marshal O'Donnell he believed to be an excellent and patriotic Minister; but when he attacked the persecutions in Spain he attacked the fundamental laws of that country. By the Spanish code any one who professed a dissent from the Church of Rome was looked upon, not as a murderer, or as a thief, or an assassin, but as much worse—he was looked upon as a heretic, was condemned to ten years' penal servitude, and was almost sure to die in the galleys. Now, how had we ever acted in this country? How had Cromwell acted? He had not proclaimed war, but he had refused to sign a treaty of peace until the Protestants of Valdois had been relieved. How had we acted on another occasion? Who was it who, in 1829, in this very month, removed the last vestiges of religious disability? Who but the same Minister who permanently endowed Maynooth? No Government was half so despotic, half so intolerant, as Spain. Let them look at Austria—a Government eaten up by despotism—and see what was the case there now. A despatch from Vienna of April 10 said:—"The Gazette of this morning publishes a patent relative to the Protestants of the Slavonic and German provinces. The document admits the right of the Protestants to regulate and manage their ecclesiastical affairs in an independent manner. It guarantees to them the most complete liberty. All the old restrictions are removed—a division for Protestant affairs is formed at the Ministry of Public Worship." Lord John Russell had stated to him in the House of Commons that the Spanish Minister had said "that he would give to British subjects every indulgence compatible with the law." But by the laws of that country no other religion than that of the land was tolerated; and when a member of the British House of Commons (the member for Leicestershire) died of cholera at Malaga, he (Sir R. Peel) had attended the funeral, but it was not permitted to take place except at night, nor could our burial service be read over the grave. He was happy to say there was a most earnest expostulation on the part of the liberal press as against these religious persecutions. How did the Government meet the accusation? They said these men were members of a secret society, and only professed religion that they might seek the overthrow of the Government. He denied that in toto. He had visited these men in their cells, not the size of a table, and their condition reminded him of the beautiful description in "The Prisoner of Chillon." He had himself been on the heaving ocean on a plank with four others, the sole survivors of a dreadful shipwreck. He had seen them perish one by one, but it did not move him; it was horror, but it was not woe. He had seen the prisoner expiating with his life the defiance of law; but it did not move him, for though it was horrible it was not woe. But he had seen these men in their dungeons, and he felt as others had felt perhaps once in their lives—

I felt what I can never express,
Yet I cannot all conceal.

The hon. Baronet concluded by saying that, thanks to a free and enlightened press, the proceedings of that evening would go forth to the civilised world, and would have their moral effect in repressing persecutions which were not only an insult to Europe, but were incompatible with the mild and charitable opinions of Christianity.

Mr. Baines, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was supported by the Bishop of Ripon, who said it appeared to him that the hon. Baronet who had just addressed them had drawn a distinction between the political laws of Spain and the laws of the Church of Rome, but those laws were one and the same. Sir R. Peel had said he would say nothing disrespectful of the Church of Rome. He (the Bishop) would say nothing disrespectful of the Church of Rome which she did not deserve. He challenged any one to say that the Church of Rome had not always been a persecuting Church, and she had never repealed laws which rendered it obligatory on her to persecute those who differed from her in their religious faith. Although he lamented he was not surprised at the persecutions in Spain.

The Rev. Dr. Cumming and Mr. T. Chambers having briefly addressed the meeting, the resolution was put and carried.

THE PRINCESS ALICE.—The *Darmstädter Zeitung* of Thursday contains the official announcement of the betrothal of her Royal Highness Princess Alice to Prince Louis of Hesse.

PRINCE ALFRED IN JAMAICA.—Prince Alfred arrived at Jamaica on the morning of the 2nd ult., and landed amidst every conceivable demonstration of rejoicings from the inhabitants. The festivities and excitement are described as having driven the city "Prince mad," and was looked upon as one of the greatest events in the history of Jamaica; but the arrival of the Seine with the melancholy intelligence of the death of the Duchess of Kent suddenly put an end to all subsequent entertainments, and the Prince privately embarked on board the *Sixx* on the 6th ult., which immediately steamed down to Port Royal. His Highness was to leave Port Royal for Portsmouth on the 10th ult.

VENETIAN WELLS.—The artesian wells in Venice, from which, at one time, water was expected in sufficient abundance and of such quality as to supply the wants of the city, have utterly failed to fulfil the purposes for which they were designed. Some of the wells have ceased to flow, others have given far less than they did at first, and the water of all has been found to contain from twice to three times the quantity of substances in solution, besides gas, than either river or rain water.

THE PALACE SQUARE AT WARSAW.

EVENTS at Warsaw are still of the most unhappy character; the constant repression exhibited in the proclamations of Prince Gortschakoff tending to create a deep hatred of military interference which nothing seems to abate.

The military measures taken at St. Petersburg all have reference to the state of affairs in Poland. Three out of the six corps-d'armée, of which the active force of Russia is composed, are placed on a war footing, and all the officers and soldiers who were absent on leave were ordered to join their regiments at the latest by the 20th ult. Two of the corps are destined to occupy Poland. The second will be in Warsaw and in the provinces of Lublin and Podlacia. The third has received orders to quit Volhynia and Podolia, and proceed by forced marches into Poland, and part have already arrived in that kingdom. Each of these two corps-d'armée will be about 50,000 strong, which will make the number of soldiers required to maintain order in Poland 100,000.

According to a letter from Posen, it would appear that there were but 22,000 troops in Warsaw during the first manifestation in February, and that they were not sufficient to stop the procession. Now, however, the garrison is over 50,000, or nearly half as many as the civil population, or equal in number to the men of Warsaw. On the occasion of the attack by the troops when the people went up to ask Gortschakoff to allow the Agricultural Society to remain, it is asserted that the Russian and Cossack soldiers were made drunk that they might be incited to charge amongst the unarmed citizens.

The proclamations issued from time to time have been hitherto not only aimed at personal liberty, but their restrictions, although attempting to crush all popular demonstrations, have been resented by the inhabitants with bitter sarcasm, and have produced at the same time ridicule and deep resentment. Nearly every day brings news of some fresh proclamation which irritates the people and incenses them more deeply against the Russian Government. In that beautiful square of the Royal palace represented in our Engraving the Varsovians meet, and wait, and wonder what will be the end of their struggle for "nationality."

"QUIET."

THERE is a period in life when to be quiet is the greatest enjoyment that can offer itself. This must be the rest after a well-fought day, the sleep of the brain after intense and protracted thought, the escape into some secluded nook of the man who has been too long deafened by the roar and whirl of a great multitude. Above all, it must not be the mere precautions taken by indolence for the sake of selfish sloth. The rest only of the labouring man is sweet, and, however humble may be the home whose influence lulls the soul to pure thoughts and quiet influences, that at least shall be the one spot in all the earth for which the heart shall pant at last, when the great battle of the world has been fought, and fought well. Whether it be won or lost, the thoughts of that quiet home shall come after the conflict, and if it be lost the subdued but not quiet broken man may deem himself happy if he find an asylum beneath the roof where every early image is recalled and the intervening struggle is shut out like an ugly dream.

Mr. Marks has chosen a subject full of suggestion, and has treated it with that appreciation which makes all domestic pictures charming. The old Curate has procured the great blessing of quiet; but, even though he seems to have attained the threescore years of man's life, his rest is not idleness. Many a long and painful struggle, it may be, has been hidden from the world by the placid man who sits absorbed in the subject of his sermon, and is undisturbed by the whispered prattle of the two little ones who have deserted their Noah's ark that they may warm their tiny hands at the German stove. Poverty, hard work, even misrepresentation and a wounded spirit (which is hardest of all), may have been the lot of the man who has devoted a life to the great work which his Master has given him to do—poverty, uncomplaining, lest he should be an ensample of discontent and strife; work of both heart and brain, in which the bodily necessities too often go unappeased; misrepresentation, because he cannot beg and will not cringe; and the wounded spirit which sees others attain to the rewards and the emoluments, while he is passed by and only his existence tolerated, his long life of labour and love forgotten when it is no longer convenient to remember.

THE COMMISSION ON THE FINE ARTS.—The twelfth report of the Commissioners on the Fine Arts has just been issued. The commissioners state with regard to the decoration of the palace at Westminster that they find by experiment that fresco pictures are far preferable to oil paintings, and they have therefore restricted the works in painting either to fresco or to the water-glass, which has been for some years practised with good results in Germany. The marble statue of her Majesty, with accompanying figures, by Mr. John Gibson, R.A., to be placed on the north side of the Prince's Chamber, has been completed. Some subordinate metal works and sculpture, in which the process of stereotype-casting has been successfully adopted, have also been executed under the superintendence of the commissioners. The commissioners submit various explanations accounting for the delay in the preparation of cartoons, by Mr. J. K. Herbert, R.A., for the Peers' robing-room. This they attribute mainly to a conscientious study on the part of the artist. With regard to the Peers' and Commons' corridors, to be painted respectively by Mr. C. W. Cope, R.A., and Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A., it is proposed to provide temporary sheds at the south end of the building, in which, at the most favourable season of the year for fresco-painting, the artists can proceed uninterruptedly with their work. The commissioners express "their extreme mortification" that the Queen's robing-room, to be painted by Mr. Dyce, R.A., is still unfinished, the exclusive occupation of the room by Mr. Dyce having, they fear, occasioned great inconvenience to her Majesty. The more recent interruption has, it is understood, arisen from ill health. Special mention is made of the unremittent industry of Mr. Maillie, R.A., now employed in painting, by the stereochrome water-glass method, the subject of the meeting of Wellington and Blucher after the battle of Waterloo in one of the large compartments of the Royal gallery. The commissioners feel bound to admit that the artists could, in almost every case, "be more profitably—though not more honourably—employed in other and possibly less arduous undertakings." But they take a different view with regard to sculpture, and they believe that every object which was contemplated in the appointment of this commission would be fulfilled by the employment of eminent sculptors. The greater number of the statues proposed to be placed in the Queen's robing-room, in the vestibule, and on the lower landing-place, are recommended to be different in material and dimensions from those proposed for the Royal gallery, and they will consequently be of much less cost. The estimate for 1861-2 is £3200 for four statues of British Sovereigns, to be placed in the Royal gallery.

MR. COBURN, M.P., AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—The following letter has been addressed by Mr. Coburn to Mr. A. Stewart, of Rochdale:—"Algiers, April 17, 1861. My dear Sir,—It is my intention to leave for Marseilles next week; but, as I intend to pass a short time in the south of France, and may be for a few days in Paris, I cannot yet fix the precise day when I shall be in England. In reply to your kind inquiries, I can report favourably of my general health, which has derived great benefit from my residence here. I hope on my return to be quite equal to the ordinary labours of Parliament and to the duties I owe to my constituents; but I shall find it necessary for a time to avoid a too great exertion of my voice, which has not quite recovered its former tone; and I fear I must absolutely deny myself the pleasure of attending the festive gatherings of my friends. I am therefore induced to ask you to restrict your arrangements to a meeting only of my constituents on my return home. Let it be a public and open one, and, if I cannot have the satisfaction of meeting all who wish to be present, I shall be most happy to repeat my visit after the close of the Session of Parliament. I shall be sorry if this arrangement, which I believe to be necessary under the circumstances, should cause any disappointment in any quarter; and I remain, my dear Sir, faithfully yours, R. COBURN."

REPORTED WRECK OF THE WASP.—We are informed that a letter has been received at Chatham, dated Feb. 3, written by Colour-Sergeant Wright, stating that the *Wasp*, 13, Commander Charles Stirling, struck on a coral reef in Hango Bay on the 28th of January; that she was, at the date of the letter, half full of water, her engines all to pieces, and a portion of them forced up through the lower deck; that the ship had apparently broken her back, and that two or three of the main beams had been carried away. The crew, according to the statement of the writer, had been landed upon a small island about a mile distant from the wreck, living in tents, hoping at the next ensuing spring tides to get the ship afloat.

POPULATION OF FRANCE.—Now that a new Census is about to be taken it may be well to state what the number of the population of France was on preceding occasions:—In 1821 it was 30,461,875; in 1831, 32,569,223; in 1841, 34,910,910; in 1846, 35,401,761; in 1851, 35,783,170; in 1856, 36,039,364.

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Embroidered Cashmere Shawls, with Velvet, from 18s. 6d. Engraving, Descriptions, and Prices (which may be kept), free.
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THE NEW BLACK GLACE SILKS.
These Silks are a new shade of Black, and are highly recommended for their permanent brilliancy and a well-known dress-maker, if, or if pattern bodies are forwarded to the warehouse, accompanied by a descriptive note of the mourning required, the proper supply in any quantity will be dispatched the same day.
Dresses, Mantles, Bonnets, &c., are kept ready made in the greatest variety.
PETER ROBINSON'S MOURNING WAREHOUSE, Nos. 103 and 104, Oxford-street.

THE BROCHE LUSTRED ALPINES.
Considerable Improvements have been made this season in the manufacture of light fabrics in BLACK, and in greater variety of make than at any previous season. The above named is highly recommended for strong and useful wear, and is manufactured expressly for this house.
Patterns of all the new fabric post-free.
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FAMILY MOURNING.
NOTICE TO COUNTRY RESIDENTS.
The Nobility, Gentry, and the Public are respectfully informed that mourning goods will be sent to any part of the country to select from free of carriage, and at the lowest possible prices. Also, the extra-thick woven silks, of a Florida make, much superior to the ordinary kinds.
Patterns free.
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WINDOW CURTAINS.
R. WILLEY and SON respectfully inform their friends and the public that they have purchased at a CONSIDERABLE DISCOUNT a large parcel of very desirable WINDOW CURTAINS, which they are NOW SELLING at prices that they feel a continued need ensure a speedy sale.
15 and 16, LUDGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Four doors from St. Paul's.

NEW SPRING SILKS.
R. WILLEY and SON have now on sale several large Parcels of RICH FANCY SILKS, from 2s. 6d. per yard, wide width.
PATTERNS SENT POST FREE
15 and 16, LUDGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Four doors from St. Paul's.

NEW SPRING DRESSES.
R. WILLEY and SON respectfully invite the attention of Ladies to their Stock of FANCY DRESSES in MOHAIR, BAREGE ANGLAIS, EALZARINE, and other materials.
Prices from 4s. 6d. per Dress of 15 yards.
PATTERNS FORWARDED POST FREE
15 and 16, LUDGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Four doors from St. Paul's.

IN GREAT DEMAND.
THE NEW FIGURED SPRING SILK, wide width, and both sides alike, 3s. 3d. per yard, in Brown, Black, Green, Violet, and Blue.
JAMES SPENCE and CO. also request the particular attention of Ladies to the following lots:—

- No. 1. Wide-width BLACK FRENCH GLACES, 2s. 9d. per yard, usually sold at 3s. 6d.
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Please note the Address—
JAMES SPENCE and CO.,
77 and 78, St. Paul's-churchyard, E.C.
Closed on Saturdays at Five o'clock.

TO LADIES.—Our new Showrooms are now open with the largest stock in the world of Spring and Summer Horsehair Crinoline Petticoats, Paris and American Watch-spring Jupons, with every novelty in front-facing Elastic Coutil Skirts and Bodices.
Paris and American Watch-spring Skeleton Petticoats, 5s. to 21s. Ladies' Front-fastening Elastic Bodices, Skirts, &c., 7s. to 25s. Self-lacing Family and Nursing Skirts, Belts, &c., 8s. 6d. to 25s. Address, WILLIAM CARTER and Co., 23, Ludgate-st., St. Paul's, E.C.

NEW and DISTINGUISHED MANTLES.
The NEW FASHION SHEETS ARE NOW READY, which will be forwarded.

AMOTT BROTHERS and CO.,
61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

THE NEW MANTLE UDINE,
a new and graceful shape, in cloth and the new materials, Price 16s. 9d.
ALSO IN RICH GLACE SILK, 21s. 6d.
This New Mantle will be found, for real value and beauty, unsurpassed in the Metropolis.
Engraving free.
AMOTT BROTHERS and CO.,
61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

FAMILY MOURNING IN GREAT VARIETY.
CHEAP MOURNING SILKS, CHEAP MOURNING DRESSES, CHEAP MOURNING SHAWLS, CHEAP MOURNING MANTLES, CHEAP FANCY GOODS FOR MOURNING.
Write for patterns, and save your money, to AMOTT BROTHERS,
61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

NEW SPRING DRESSES.
PATTERNS POST-FREE.
BAREGE ANGLAIS IN ALL THE NEW PATTERNS, 3s. to 6d. per yard, worth double.
500 PIECES OF THE NEW GLACE IMPERIALE, a new and pretty material, 6s. 9d. each.
500 PIECES RICH REAL MOHAIRS, 8s. 9d. per yard.
REAL WASHING GRENADINES, 1s. 9d. per yard.
RICH PEKIN FOULARD FANCIES, for Morning Wear, 1s. 9d. per yard.
AMOTT BROTHERS and CO.,
61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

NEW AND ELEGANT SHAWLS, IN EMBROIDERED PURE CACHMERE, 1s. 1s. 6d. each.
ELEGANTLY-TRIMMED LLAMA SHAWLS, 10s. 6d. each.
NEW CACHMERE SHAWLS FOR SPRING, Elegantly Quilted, 16s. 9d. each.
MOURNING SHAWLS IN GREAT VARIETY, Quilted in Crape, 1s. 9d. per yard.
REAL SPANISH LACE SHAWLS, from 1s. to 5 guineas, worth double.
RICH CACHMERE SHAWLS, Elegantly Trimmed with Lace, 1s. 9d. each.
AMOTT BROTHERS and CO.,
61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

NOIRE IMPERIALE,
THE NEW SHADE OF BLACK SILK, Highly recommended for permanent brilliancy and wear, 4s. 15s. 6d. Full Dress, usually sold at Three Pounds.
Patterns post-free.
AMOTT BROTHERS and CO.,
61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

NEW SILKS.—PATTERNS POST-FREE.
QUALITY AND STYLE IS THE TEST OF CHEAPNESS. Have your money by writing to AMOTT BROTHERS for patterns of the new Silks for comparison.
GOOD BLACK SILKS, 1 guinea Full Dress.
RICH BLACK GLACE SILKS, 2s. 6d. each.

NOIRE IMPERIALE, THE NEW SHADE OF BLACK, 4s. 15s. 6d.
CHECKED AND STRIPED SILKS IN GREAT VARIETY, 16s. 9d. Full Dress.
FOULARD AND WASHING SILKS, 1s. 9d. each.
RICH JASPAR BAK AND CHECKED SILKS, 1s. 9d. each.
FRENCH SILKS, IN FLORAL AND OTHER DESIGNS, 1s. 9d. each.
SUPERIOR GLACE SILKS IN ANY COLOUR, 1s. 9d. each.
FANCY SILKS IN GREAT VARIETY, 2s. 6d. each.
RICH BLACK MOIRE ANTIQUES, 2s. 6d. each.
MOIRE ANTIQUES IN ALL THE NEW COLOURS, 3 guineas.

The whole of the above goods being genuine and new. Ladies writing from the country may depend upon having their orders executed from the advertised prices. The goods will be forwarded carriage-free on all parcels exceeding 45s. Send for a detailed catalogue and patterns, which will be forwarded free.
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VERY BEST 2s. 6d. PARIS KID GLOVES.
It is respectfully announced that, on account of the duty of a new and very superior quality of Paris Kid Gloves will be had this season at the celebrated TOWER OF BABEL, 81, Regent-street, Quadrant, W.

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PAPER HATS, TURBANS, &c. (Waterproof), in every Shape and Colour, 1s. each.
PATENTED by ARTHUR GRANGER, the Cheap Stationer of 308, High Holborn, W.C.

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Patterns free by post.
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WILLIAM S. BURTON has SIX LARGE SHOWROOMS devoted exclusively to the SEPARATE DISPLAY of Lamps, Baths, and Metallic Bedsteads. The stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices proportionate with those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country.
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(All other kinds at the same rate.)
Pure Colza Oil 4s. 6d. per gallon.

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GARDNERS' £2 2s. DINNER SERVICES Complete, Best Quality. Breakfast, Dessert, Tea, and Toilet Services, equally low. Out. Wines, 3s. 6d. per doz.; Cut. Decanters (quart), 7s. 6d. per pair. Military and Naval Messes supplied. Engraving, H. and G. Gardner, by appointment to her Majesty (established 169 years), 483, Strand, Charing cross, W.C.

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SPOONS and FORKS.—RICHARD and JOHN SLACK, manufacturers and electroplaters, solicit an inspection of their stock and prices. Very article warranted to have a strong coating of pure silver over Black's nickel. The fact of twenty years' wear is ample proof of its durability. Table spoons or forks, 30s. and 25s. per dozen; dessert, 20s. and 20s.; tea, 12s. and 12s. Old goods related equal to new. Orders addressed to RICHARD and JOHN SLACK, 336, Strand. Established fifty years.

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Policies in existence on June 30, 1851, will participate in the South British Assurance Co. profits, 1852, so that persons who complete assurance before June 30, 1851, will share in that division, although one premium only will have been paid. Tables of Rates and Forms of Proposal can be obtained of any of the Society's Agents, or of
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The "Lancet" states, "This is superior to anything of the kind known." Similar articles, known to be unsuitable upon their own merits, having a trade mark resembling Brown and Polson's, are sometimes substituted or recommended as the same. When we adopt the trade mark upon packets, four years after our Corn Flour was introduced, there was no other article known prepared from Indian corn having any sort of trade mark.—Paisley, Manchester, Dublin and London.

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